# Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Vol. 30, Issue 1
JANUARY 2022

# TAPIT's Son DIVINING ROD
# 16 First-Crop Winners (thru Dec. 13)

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

## They're born to run.

**DIVINE HUNTRESS: bred in Maryland by Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Rick L. Buckley & Joshua Dreiband; trained by Rick Buckley; racing for Long Valley Stable. Winner in a gallop of a $42,000 Parx Maiden Special Weight in her 2nd start.**

*Divining Rod: 3rd to American Pharoah in G1 Preakness, 2nd to Connect (by a head) in G1 Cigar Mile. Earner of $882,604. Out of 3-time G1 winner Precious Kitten, a ¾ sister to Leading Sire Kitten's Joy.*

*Owned by syndicate of Gretchen and Roy Jackson, Country Life Farm, and Gainesway Farm.*

*$5,000 LFSN; BC, MM*

COUNTRY LIFE & MERRYLAND
From Beginning to Winning

**Maryland's Oldest Thoroughbred Farm**
**Bel Air, Maryland 21014**
**www.countrylifefarm.com**
**Office 410-879-1952 • Josh Pons 443-807-0644**
**Mike Pons 410-459-8517 • Christy Holden 410-808-1325**

# GALAWI (IRE)

**Dubawi (IRE)** – Galikova (FR),
*by Galileo (IRE) | $2,000 LF*

Son of the World's Leading Sire
**DUBAWI**

Out of a 1/2-Sister to Hall of Famer
**GOLDIKOVA**

## GALAWI

In only U.S. start, came from 5th at the top of the stretch and powered past rivals to win Belmont Maiden Special Weight. In debut, runner-up to G3-placed horse on all-weather; in second start, finished 3rd, a neck back to a stakes winner.

## DUBAWI

By **DUBAWI (IRE)**, Top International Sire Only sire to have three Breeders' Cup winners in one year (2021: **SPACE BLUES, MODERN GAMES, & YIBIR**). In 2021, the World's Leading Sire of Group winners (23) and Stakes winners (38), and also Europe's top sales stallion (with an average of £541,000). Sire of sires, including **NIGHT OF THUNDER** (two G1Ws from his first crop in 2021)

## GALIKOVA (FR)

Won 2YO debut. Won three Group stakes, including prestigious G1 Prix Vermeille. Previous winners include 2013 European Horse of the Year **TREVE** (FR) and 2020 BC winner **TARNAWA** (IRE).

## GOLDIKOVA (IRE)

Member of National Museum of Racing's Hall of Famer Breeders' Cup Mile-G1 winner 2008, 2009, & 2010 14-time G1 winner, including nine against males Two-time Eclipse Award winner, European Horse of the Year, twice European Champion Older Horse

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| GALAWI (IRE) | Dubawi (IRE) | Dubai Millennium | Seeking the Gold | |
| | | | Colorado Dancer (IRE) | |
| | | Zomaradah (GB) | Deploy | |
| | | | Jawaher | |
| | Galikova (FR) (2008) | Galileo | Sadler's Wells | |
| | | | Urban Sea | |
| | | Born Gold | Blushing Groom (FR) | |
| | | | Riviere D'or | |

**By DUBAWI (IRE)** (2002). Hwt. 3 times in France and Ireland, classic winner of $1,256,932, Boylesports Irish Two Thousand Guineas **[G1]**, etc. Leading sire in France, sire of 13 crops of racing age, 1750 foals, 1422 starters, 219 black-type winners, 1060 winners of 3275 races and earning $194,244,-257, 7 champions, including Makfi (hwt., $867,460, Stanjames.com Two Thousand Guineas **[G1]**, etc.), Lucky Nine ($6,652,807, Cathay Pacific Hong Kong Sprint **[G1]**, etc.), and of Postponed **[G1]** (hwt., $7,226,764).

**1st dam**

**GALIKOVA (FR)**, by Galileo. 5 wins at 2 and 3, €812,760, in France, Qatar Prix Vermeille **[G1]**, Prix Guillaume d'Ornano **[G2]**, Prix Cleopatre **[G3]**, etc. (Total: $1,127,103). Dam of 4 other foals, 3 to race, all winners, including--

**Galikeo** (c. by Dansili). 2 wins at 3, €56,575, in France, 2nd Derby du Languedoc [L]. (Total: $62,138).

**2nd dam**

BORN GOLD, by Blushing Groom (FR). Winner at 4, €11,434, in France. (Total: $14,002). Sister to **GOLD SPLASH [G1]** (Total: $471,884). Dam of--

**GOLDIKOVA (IRE)** (f. by Anabaa). 12 wins in 20 starts, 2 to 6, €2,257,145, in France, champion older horse and champion older mare in Europe, hwt. at 3 on French Hand., 7 - 9 1/2 fur., hwt. older mare at 4, 5 and 6 on French Hand., 7 - 9 1/2 fur., Prix du Haras de Fresnay-le-Buffard Jacques Le Marois **[G1]**, etc.; 3 wins, 3 to 5, $3,508,200, in N.A./U.S., champion grass mare twice, Breeders' Cup Mile **[G1]** (OSA, $1,150,200), Breeders' Cup Mile **[G1]** (OSA, $1,080,000), Breeders' Cup Mile **[G1]** (CD, $1,080,000), etc.; winner at 4 and 5, £309,265, in England, hwt. older mare at 4, 5 and 6 on English Hand., 7 - 9 1/2 fur., Queen Anne S. **[G1]**, etc. (Total: $7,176,551). Dam of **TERRAKOVA [G3]** (f. by Galileo, 2 wins, Total: $187,829).

**GALIKOVA (FR)** (f. by Galileo). Black-type winner, above.

**ANODIN (IRE)** (c. by Anabaa). 2 wins at 3, €325,475, in France, Prix Paul de Moussac **[G3]**, etc.; placed in 1 start at 4, $360,000, in N.A./U.S., 2nd Breeders' Cup Mile **[G1]** (SA, $360,000); placed in 1 start at 4, £43,612, in England, 3rd Queen Anne S. **[G1]**. (Total: $868,463). Sire.

**NEW FOR 2022**

Northview STALLION STATION

Linda Bench: 410.885.2855, lbench@northviewstallions.com
Paul O'Loughlin: 443.566.2996 (cell), paul@northviewstallions.com
55 Northern Dancer Drive, Chesapeake City, MD 21915

PHOTO: COGLIANESE

Virginia Thoroughbred Association
Annual Stallion Season

# Auction

**GREAT STALLIONS, GREAT DEALS!**

# February 9, 2022

## 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Check our website for auction details and the season list, which is updated daily!

**Visit www.vabred.org - the best source for Virginia breeding and racing news**

For more information on the Virginia Breeders Fund or Virginia Stakes Program, please contact the Virginia Thoroughbred Association at (434) 977-3716

Virginia Breeders Fund

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

## 2022 MIDLANTIC SALES DATES

**Midlantic Two-Year-Olds in Training** — **May 23 - 24**
*Entries close: February 7* — *(Under Tack Show: May 17 - 19)*

**Midlantic Fall Yearlings** — **October 3 - 4**
*Entries close: July 8*

**Midlantic December Mixed & Horses of Racing Age** — **December 6**
*Main catalogue entries close: September 16*
*H.O.R.A. supplement entries close: TBA*

**Dates subject to change*

MIDLANTIC 2YOS IN TRAINING
**2021 SALE TOPPER**

**HIP 211** *c.*
**$1,500,000**
**QUALITY ROAD - STORMY WELCOME**
*CONSIGNOR: EDDIE WOODS AGENT*
*BUYER: WEST POINT THOROUGHBREDS / L.E.B. AGENT*

Fasig-Tipton
fasigtipton.com

Page 28

SARA GORDON

# In this issue

## Pineaus still breeding success in Maryland

Lenny and Pat Pineau's Three Pines Farm sends out some of Maryland's best Thoroughbreds, and has been doing it for decades. The small-animal veterinarians combine a love for horses with pedigree research, gut feelings and hard work to create successful families. By Sandra McKee. Page 20

## Racehorse success propels December mixed sale

Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's annual December sale continues to trend heavily toward racing prospects, with the sales-topper Safalow's Mission reaching $130,000 on a bid by New York trainer Linda Rice. The sale also included a $100,000 broodmare and a $50,000 weanling. By Sara Gordon. Page 28

## Stallions eye start of region's breeding season

Two newcomers join the roster at Northview Stallion Station, while a full-brother to Gun Runner steps in at Anchor and Hope–as regional sires in Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia look to find footholds in national sire rankings. By MAT Staff. Page 36

## Life's Illusion put on a show in 1975

With the expected coronation of The Mean Queen (Ire) as the steeplechase Eclipse Award winner, the connections of Maryland-bred Life's Illusion look back on the jumping sport's first filly/mare to be named overall champion. By Joe Clancy. Page 48

**Cover: Lenny and Pat Pineau continue to build on a reputation for excellence at their Three Pines Farm in Maryland.** Photo by Sara Gordon.

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# Anchor and Hope Farm

## SPEED. TALENT. SOUNDNESS.
## WHERE RACEHORSES BECOME SIRES.

### BOURBON COURAGE Lion Heart–Shine Forth, by Carson City
**LEADING MID-ATLANTIC THIRD CROP SIRE** by percentage of Blacktype performers

G2-winning, multiple G1-placed millionaire. 60% winners/starters & 10% stakes horses include MSW and MG3 performer **DOUBLE CROWN** $246,985), **FORTHELUVUFBOURBON**, **RAGING WHISKEY** (G3-placed), etc. 2020 2YOs sold for up to 67-times his 2020 stud fee $2,500 LFSN, BC & MM

### EDITORIAL War Front–Playa Maya, by Arch
**HALF-BROTHER TO LEADING SIRE UNCLE MO**

Allowance-winning son of proven sire of sires **WAR FRONT**, from an undeniable family. Sire of Maryland Million Lassie-placed **My Thoughts** in first crop. **66% winners!**

$2,500 LFSN, BC & MM

### FORTUNE TICKET Candy Ride (Arg)–Quiet Giant, By Giant's Causeway
**FULL BROTHER TO 2021 LEADING FRESHMAN SIRE GUN RUNNER**

First-crop sire **GUN RUNNER** has nearly twice the earners of his closest competitor in the 2021 freshman sire race. Horse of the year earned over $15.9 million. Two-time winner Fortune Ticket is from a solid sire-producing Ned Evans family. $2,500 LFSN, BC & MM

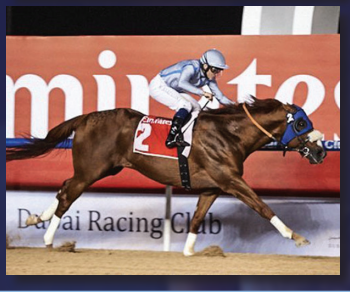
### HOLY BOSS Street Boss–Holy Grace, by Holy Bull
**MULTIPLE SIX-FIGURE 2-YEAR-OLDS**

First crop sire of **Sparkle Sprinkle** (2 wins, 3rd Maryland Million Lassie), **Sale Boss (Arg),** etc. Blistering fast Saratoga G2 winner & MG1-placed. On the board in 18 of 22 starts, earning $771,527. 100+ Beyers in the G1 Breeders' Cup Sprint, G1 Vanderbilt, G1 King's Bishop, etc. Brilliant gate speed. $2,500 LFSN, BC & MM

### IMAGINING Giant's Causeway–Daydreaming, by A.P. Indy
**SIRE OF MARYLAND MILLION CLASSIC WINNER IN HIS FIRST CROP**

Sire of **MONDAY MORNING QB** ($245,155, Maryland Million Classic, Heft S, G3-placed), Maryland Million-placed horses **Quiet Imagination** and **Claire's Darling**, plus **Bogey's Image**. G1-winning millionaire with SIX 100+ Beyers from a stacked Phipps family.

$2,500 LFSN, BC & MM




### LONG RIVER A.P. Indy–Round Pond, by Awesome Again
**G1-WINNING A.P. INDY WITH A 124 EQUIBASE DIRT SPEED FIGURE**

Highest dirt speed figure of any stallion in Maryland. Lasix-free G1 winner. G1-placed in the US, behind Tonalist in G1 Jockey Club Gold Cup, G3 Excelsior. Multiple 100+ Beyers. **Highest average and median of Maryland first crop yearling sires – up to 40x his stud fee.**

$1,500 LFSN, BC & MM

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# Maryland Stallion Season Auction

*Benefiting*

THE Maryland Horse FOUNDATION

## January 3-7, 2022

Offering No-Guarantee Seasons to the following Maryland stallions:

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|---|---|---|
| Alliance | Holy Boss | Mosler |
| Barbados | Hoppertunity | Outflanker |
| Blofeld | Imagining | Rainbow Heir |
| Bourbon Courage | Irish War Cry | Street Magician |
| Editorial | Kobe's Back | Super Ninety Nine |
| Fortune Ticket | Long River | Uncle Lino |
| Friesan Fire | Madefromlucky | |

Visit MarylandHorse.com or call (410) 252-2100 to learn more.

# IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

## Register your Maryland stallion for the 2022 MARYLAND-BRED RACE FUND PROGRAM

## DON'T MISS A BONUS!

***If your stallion has offspring of racing age, make sure you register him for the Maryland Fund program! STALLIONS MUST BE REGISTERED EVERY YEAR to be eligible to receive stallion bonuses. Registration fee is $250.***

Call the MHBA office at (410) 252-2100 x122 or visit www.marylandthoroughbred.com.
Visa and MasterCard accepted



Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

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Maryland Horse Breeders Association Inc.

# Bigger and better INCENTIVES to breed, foal and buy Maryland-breds!

ALL MARYLAND-BRED BONUSES APPLY TO REGISTERED MARYLAND-BREDS ONLY

**Effective January 1, 2022 for horses running in Maryland**

## BREEDER BONUSES

### Maryland-breds born prior to 2023

**30%** Breeder Bonus on earned purses for 1st, 2nd, 3rd on all overnight races

**10%** **ADDITIONAL** for Maryland-sired Maryland-bred maiden winners on earned purses

**10%** Stallion Bonus on earned purses for 1st, 2nd, 3rd on all overnight races

### For Maryland-bred foals of 2023 TIERED BREEDER BONUS SYSTEM

*(foals conceived in 2022; 2-year-olds of 2025)*

**35%** Breeder Bonus for Maryland-sired Maryland-breds on earned purses for 1st, 2nd, 3rd on all overnight races

**25%** Breeder Bonus for out-of-state-sired Maryland-breds on earned purses for 1st, 2nd, 3rd on all overnight races

**10%** Stallion Bonus on earned purses for 1st, 2nd, 3rd on all overnight races

*2025 Breeder Bonus percentages estimated. For Maryland-breds born in 2023, bonus money on earned purses will be 40% more for Maryland-sireds than out-of-state-sireds. Stallions must be registered with MBRF.*

### BONUS PERCENTAGES ON STAKES

*for stakes in Maryland*

**BREED FOAL RACE in Maryland**

**30%** Breeder bonuses paid for 1st, 2nd, 3rd on earned purses

**10%** Stallion bonuses paid for 1st, 2nd, 3rd on earned purses

*Stakes capped at $100,000. Maryland Million Day races pay 15% Breeder bonuses, 5% Stallion Bonuses for 1st, 2nd, 3rd on earned purses. Stallions must be registered with the Maryland-Bred Race Fund*

## IT PAYS TO RACE Maryland-breds in Maryland

## OWNER/DEVELOPER BONUSES

### 15% OWNER BONUS

SHARE OF PURSE

**On all open overnight races for Maryland-bred horses finishing 1st, 2nd or 3rd.**

Paid as part of the purse, included in typical owner earnings and are reflected in horse's Equibase earnings.

### 15% DEVELOPER BONUS

SHARE OF PURSE

**On all open overnight races for Maryland-bred horses finishing 1st, 2nd or 3rd.**

Developer is the owner of the horse in its first career start.

Bonuses will continue to be paid to the Developer throughout the horse's racing career, regardless of how many times ownership changes, unless the horse changed hands prior to start of the program on January 22, 2021. Developer bonuses are NOT paid as part of the purse, therefore not reflected in horse's Equibase earnings. Bonuses will by paid monthly by Horsemen's Bookkeeper by check after races are released by the stewards.

**Owner and Developer bonuses are funded by Maryland Thoroughbred Purse Account. Program is administered by Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association**

## UPDATED WAIVER MAIDEN CLAIMING

**$40,000 Waiver Maiden Claiming**

MD-bred and/or MD-sired horses may waive the claiming price

**$25,000 Waiver Maiden Claiming**

MD-sired horses only may waive the claiming price

MARYLAND-BRED RACE FUND

At the direction of the MD Racing Commission, the MBRF is administered by **Maryland Horse Breeders Association, 321 Main St., Reisterstown MD 21136 • 410-252-2100 • MarylandThoroughbred.com**

Breeder and stallion award percentages are determined on a bi-annual basis by the MRC

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# POST TIME

**SKY BEAUTY.** Florida's Gulfstream Park—here turning on the charm during morning training in January 2021—hosts top older horses in the Grade 1 Pegasus World Cup Saturday, Jan. 29. Maryland-bred Knicks Go is expected to make the final start of his career in the $3 million race.

Scott Serio/Eclipse Sportswire photo

# Say It Again

"Dad was bald anyway, but what little hair he had left she took."
*Trainer (and then teenage jump jockey) Doug Fout, about 1975 steeplechase champion Life's Illusion*

BARBARA L. LIVINGSTON

SKIP BALL COLLECTION/MARYLAND HORSE LIBRARY

**Frank Bonsal III presents trainer Paul Fout with Life's Illusion's 1977 Maryland-bred steeplechase championship, her second of three.**

"The old man of the place. He doesn't need an introduction."
*Northview Stallion Station's Paul O'Loughlin, as 21-year-old Great Notion (now 22) stepped out of the barn at an open house in December; the leader among regional stallions by stakes winners in 2021 still doesn't look his age.*

# Remembering Sam Huff

Owner/breeder Gordie Keys called with a Sam Huff story upon the latter's death at age 87 in November. A former NFL great, Huff co-founded the West Virginia Breeders Classics with partner Carol Holden and was a longtime Thoroughbred owner and breeder.

"Sam and I both had horses with Barclay Tagg one year and they ran on the same day and ran no good," Keys said, turning back time to a moment in the box seats afterward.

"What's wrong with my horse?" Keys asked.

Tagg, typically, didn't mince words and replied, "Gordie, he's no damn good."

Huff kept his mouth shut. As Tagg walked away, off to the paddock, the barn or somewhere else he had to be, Huff turned to Keys and eased the tension.

"Well, I don't even want to ask him about my horse now."

That was Huff, and Keys and Tagg.

"He was a lovely guy, easy to talk to and could talk to you about anything," Keys said. "He did a lot for racing, and a lot more for other people."

LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

## GO FIGURE

**82:** Winners in 2021 sired by Pennsylvania stallion Wicked Strong, the region's leader, through Dec. 16. He held a slight lead over the late Jump Start by progeny earnings with just shy of $3.8 million.

**46,000:** Dollars a fox sculpture, *Holding Tight*, by Peggy Kauffman sold for at Keeneland's annual auction of sporting art in November. Kauffman, based in Millerton, N.Y., produced the Renaissance Award bronze for Maryland racing.

**5:** Years in prison former trainer Jorge Navarro was sentenced to by federal judge Mary Kay Vyskocil as part of his guilty plea for his role in a conspiracy to sell and administer misbranded drugs for racehorses. Navarro won seven training titles at New Jersey's Monmouth Park and trained Grade 1 winners X Y Jet, Sharp Azteca, Private Zone and El Deal among others. Navarro and fellow national leading trainer Jason Servis and others were charged in a federal indictment in March 2020. Navarro, who originally pled not guilty, is among 10 individuals to plead guilty in the case, which charged 29. Servis has maintained a not-guilty plea.

## NAMES OF THE MONTH

**Olympic Gold.** The 7-year-old Tapit gelding, a winner at Colonial Downs last year, is out of Wyomia. Olympic track fans know Wyomia Tyus won gold medals as a sprinter for the United States at Tokyo in 1964 and Mexico City in 1968.

**Daily Planet.** Patricia Beck's 3-year-old Maryland-bred filly is by Editorial. Superman's alter ego Clark Kent wrote for the Daily Planet newspaper.

Only **GSW** son of **INTO MISCHIEF** in the Mid-Atlantic/Northeast

# ENGAGE

**Into Mischief** – Nefertiti, *by Speightstown* | *$5,000 LF*

**NEW FOR 2022**

- **Multiple Graded SW of $802,780**
- **Won/Placed in FIVE Graded Stakes**
- **$550,000 2YO Sales Purchase**

## RACE RECORD:

**WON:** Keeneland's Phoenix S.-G2 over World-Class/G1-Winning Sprinters – **WHITMORE** (Champion Sprinter, BC Sprint-G1 winner), **PROMISES FULFILLED** ($1,455,530), **LEXITONIAN,** etc.
**WON:** Belmont's Futurity S.-G3 by 3 1/2 lengths in third start
**WON:** Belmont's Gold Fever S. over a muddy track, and $100,000 Bensalem S.
**2ND:** Woody Stephens S.-G2, Bay Shore S.-G3, Amsterdam S.-G3 (100 Beyer)
**4TH:** Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1 (104 Beyer, defeating **FIRENZE FIRE**), H. Allen Jerkens S.-G1, Gallant Bob S.-G3

## PEDIGREE:

By **INTO MISCHIEF**
Champion Sire for the third consecutive year (2019, 2020, 2021), whose sons at stud include:

- **AUTHENTIC** (Kentucky Derby-G1/Breeders' Cup Classic-G1 winner, entered stud 2021)
- **PRACTICAL JOKE** (3x G1W, 3rd Leading First-Crop Sire in 2021)
- **GOLDENCENTS** (2x Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile-G1 winner, #1 3rd Crop Sire in 2020, #1 4th Crop Sire in 2021)
- **AUDIBLE** (G1 SW, 1st crop weanlings average over $101,000)

Out of a stakes-placed daughter of Champion Sprinter and Leading Sire **SPEIGHTSTOWN**. Second dam is multiple GSW **CLEARLY A QUEEN** ($504,532)

Northview STALLION STATION

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PHOTO: EQUI-PHOTO

# MILESTONES

**Honored:** At the recent EQUUS Film & Arts Fest literary competition, Milton C. Toby for his article "¡Viva Cañonero!: Unlikely story of Venezuelan superstar who won Derby, Preakness still amazes," which appeared in the May 2021 edition of *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred*. The piece earned runner-up honors in the Magazine Article category, which Toby won for his piece "The Path Behind and Ahead: Due Process, the Derby, and the Dancer's Image Playbook," which appeared in the July 2021 edition of *Blood-Horse*. Toby's story on Canonero celebrated the 50th anniversary of the colt's victories in the 1971 Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes that made him the favorite to capture the first Triple Crown since Citation in 1948. Founded in 2013 by Lisa Driesen and co-organized by Driesen and Diana DeRosa, the EQUUS Film and Arts Fest is the world's premier showcase for domestic and international feature films, documentaries and shorts, plus literary, artistic and photographic works in which the horse is center stage.

**Selected:** To the National Museum of Racing's Joe Hirsch Media Roll of Honor, the late longtime *Washington Post* turf writer Walter Haight. A native of Washington, D.C., who joined the *Post* in 1924, Haight covered his first Kentucky Derby in 1932 to start a streak of 37 straight. A charter member and president of the Maryland Racing Writers Association and a vice president with the National Turf Writers Association, Haight has a career excellence award named in his honor presented annually by the National Turf Writers and Broadcasters. Haight is joined on this Roll of Honor by longtime *Daily Racing Form* national correspondent Jay Privman, a two-time winner of the David F. Woods Award for best Preakness Stakes story and honored by the Maryland Jockey Club with the Old Hilltop Award in 2005; and the late Jack Mann, an Eclipse Award-winnng turf writer with *The Washington Daily News* (1970 to 1971), *Washington Star* (1971 to 1972), *Baltimore Evening Sun* (1980 to 1990) and other publications including *Sports Illustrated, Maryland Horse* and *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* during his decorated career.

**Stopped:** Riding races for the winter, jockey Julian Pimentel, to contemplate the future. Pimentel, a Maryland mainstay since 2006 and the regular rider of Mid-Atlantic star Ben's Cat, rode at Laurel Park Nov. 27 but returned to his native

Colombia with eyes on returning for the spring meet at Laurel. Pimentel came to the United States in 2000 and worked as an exercise rider for Hall of Fame trainer Bill Mott before becoming a jockey. He first rode in New Jersey before making the move to Maryland. "I've been fighting with my weight a little bit lately, so I'm going to go home to relax, spend time with family and not think about it and when I come back I'll see what happens," Pimentel said. "I've never done anything else. I have fun, but it's hard to do. Everything has to come to an end. I'm definitely coming back, I just don't know if I'm going to ride again. I don't know exactly what I'd do." Pimentel won 11 races at Laurel's fall meet, 42 this year and was at 1,806 for his career with eight Grade 3 wins and mounts in the 2019 Kentucky Derby-G1 and 2011, 2014 and 2019 Preakness-G1. His victory in the 2017 General George-G3 at Laurel was the first graded-stakes victory for Imperial Hint, who would go on to win four Grade 1 stakes and more than $2.2 million in purses. Ben's Cat was, by far, Pimentel's greatest horse. Pimentel was aboard for 41 of 63 starts including 30 in a row from June 2012 to November 2015. Together they won 22 races, 17 of them in stakes, topped by the 2013 and 2014 Parx Dash-G3, 2012 Turf Monster-G3, 2012 Maryland Million Turf Sprint, 2013-15 Mister Diz and Jim McKay Turf Sprint, and 2012-14 Fabulous Strike Handicap. "Ben's Cat was very important to me, a very good horse," Pimentel said. Agent Ronnie Gerardo said Pimentel first began thinking about taking a sabbatical when Maryland racing was paused from mid-March to late May 2020 amid the coronavirus pandemic. Pimentel had single-season highs of 1,039 mounts and $4,387,978 million in purse earnings in 2001 and 146 wins in 2011, when he also won his 1,000th race aboard Pet Me Pet Me at Delaware Park. "He's leaning toward retirement. It all depends on his weight," Gerardo said. "I'm praying that he'll be back, because I'm going to miss him. We've been together for almost 13 years. It's a long time, especially in this game."

**Expanded:** Its racing schedule to 27 days for 2022, Virginia's Colonial Downs racetrack via approval by the Virginia Racing Commission in December. The 2022 meet includes an increase of six racing days and covers nine weeks from July 11 through Sept. 7 with average daily purses increasing to an expected $600,000 from $522,000 in 2021. The race-day schedule will mirror the 2021 slate, with racing every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. The 2021 meet featured 21 race days and an average daily betting handle of $2,240,000.

**Increased:** Jockey Club Registration fees by $20 in each category, starting in 2022. The fee increase is the first since the 2013 foal crop. Starting Jan. 1, new fees for registering a Thoroughbred are (for 2021 foals) $225 if all requirements are met within one calendar year of foaling date; (for 2022 and later foals) $245 if all requirements are met within one calendar year of foaling date; $570 if all requirements are met by Dec. 31 of yearling year; $820 if all requirements are met by Dec. 31 of 2-year-old year; $2,045 if all requirements are met after Dec. 31 of 2-year-old year.

**Approved:** A 220-day schedule of live racing for 2022, Charles Town Races in West Virginia as per state law. Charles Town is required to submit a request for at least 220 days before attempting to adjust it downward. The track hopes to reduce that number after conversations with the Charles Town HBPA. "We are in discussions with the Charles Town HBPA on amending this calendar and it's certainly our hope to have a resolution as to what next year will look like sooner than later," said Charles Town's director of racing operations Charlie McIntosh. "The unfortunate reality is that our field size is down nearly one-half a horse compared to 2020, there are almost 300 empty stalls in our barn area currently and the situation with the horse population isn't improving." Charles Town's 2021 meet ended Dec. 18,

## Multiple Grade 1 Winner

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**Any Given Saturday – Refugee, by Unaccounted For** | *$5,000 LF*

Won/Placed in 9 G1 Stakes, 19 Graded Stakes
in All Lifetime Career Earnings of $4,712,625

**WON:**

- **Jockey Club Gold Cup S.-G1** (faster time than **CURLIN**, **TONALIST**, **DIVERSIFY**, etc.)
- **Clark H.-G1** (as a 3YO against older horses in 2nd start after layoff)
- **Rebel S.-G2** (faster time than **AMERICAN PHAROAH**, **CURLIN**, etc.)
- **Brooklyn Invitational S.-G2** (only 1/2 sec. off **JUSTIFY**'s Belmont time)

**Placed:**

Dubai World Cup-G1, Santa Anita Derby-G1,
Gold Cup at Santa Anita S.-G1, Stephen Foster H.-G1,
Awesome Again S.-G1, etc.

### 1ST CROP YEARLING TOPS AT FT MIDLANTIC OCTOBER

**$65,000 filly** - highest price by a freshman sire standing in the Mid-Atlantic/Northeast

First Foals Are 2YOs in 2022

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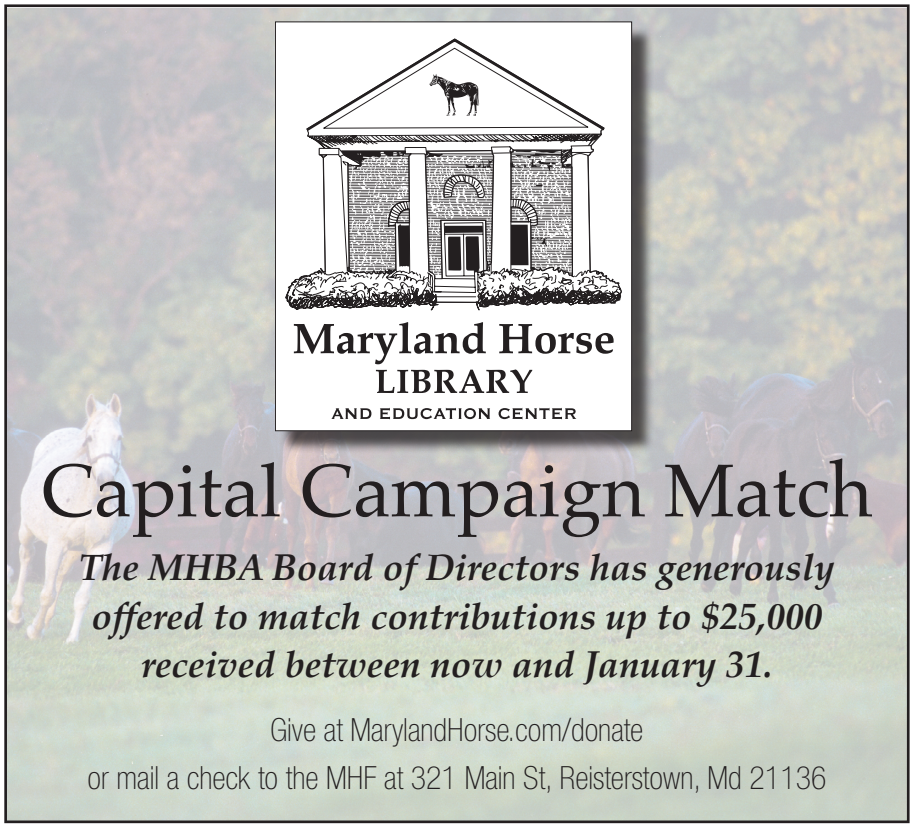
Linda Bench: 410.885.2855, lbench@northviewstallions.com
Paul O'Loughlin: 443.566.2996 (cell), paul@northviewstallions.com
55 Northern Dancer Drive, Chesapeake City, MD 21915

Photo Credit: Louise E. Reinagel

with the new year's schedule set to begin Jan. 6.

**Hired:** By the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Jeff Matty, as its executive director effective Jan. 1. Matty, most recently the racing manager of Besecker Racing Stable, brings a diverse background to the position and succeeds Mike Ballezzi (who recently announced his retirement after 25 years). In addition to his work with Besecker since 2014, Matty served as a racing official at Monmouth Park and Parx Racing. The PTHA represents the interests of horsemen at Parx Racing in Bensalem, Pa. Ballezzi, who started the job in 1996, will continue to serve as a consultant to the organization. Under his leadership, alongside PTHA president Sal DeBunda, Ballezzi advocated for the passage of the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act legalizing slot machines and setting aside revenues to bolster racing in 2004. In 2008, Ballezzi also championed the creation of Turning for Home, a nonprofit program that has provided more than 3,200 former Parx racehorses with new homes and careers after their racing careers have ended. He created the Horsemen's Purchasing Association which provides horsemen with bedding, feed, supplements, and equipment at supply-discounted prices on the backstretch of the track. In 2000, he spearheaded the creation of The Granny Fund–named in honor of Catherine "Granny" Youmans, the mother of PTHA office manager and longtime personal secretary to Ballezzi, Connie Youmans–which provides scholarships to Parx stable employees to continue their education in college and night classes. In addition, he played an instrumental role in negotiations with Parx management regarding capital investments in the backstretch that included rebuilding barns and renovating dorm rooms. He also prioritized putting in place strong health and life insurance policies for eligible horsemen. Ballezzi has been a Thoroughbred owner since 1973, is a former trainer, and races under Balmora Farm. He was named 2008 PTHA Man of the Year and he was inducted into the Parx Racing Hall of Fame in 2014.

**Published:** Two recent books with regional Thoroughbred connections. Randy Funkhouser, whose family owns O'Sullivan Farms in West Virginia, released a book of poetry called *Shenandoah Valley Sketches* in November. Available at Amazon, the book contains a series of poems celebrating the beauty of the Shenandoah Valley, "from a county fair to a day at the races, to holidays with the family." In addition, *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* editor Joe Clancy helped compile, edit and publish *The Magic of Horses* with owner/breeder Nina Gardner of Pennsylvania. The book includes 57 essays from a variety of horse people including trainers Michael Matz, Lizzie Merryman, Michael Dickinson, Sanna Neilson, Jack Fisher and Joe Davies along with event riders Phillip Dutton, Jennie Brannigan, Bruce Davidson and Boyd Martin and others from assorted equestrian backgrounds. Each was tasked with writing about a horse "who made an impact." Also available at Amazon or independent bookseller lulu.com, *The Magic of Horses* is being used to raise funds for the United States Eventing Association's Young Event Horse program.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## THE RACING BIZ

The Independent Voice for Mid-Atlantic Racing and Breeding

**What a relief! Laurel Park reopens:** Racing returned to Laurel Park in mid-December after being closed two and a half weeks, and – happily – the card went off without a hitch. Frank Vespe reports.

**Off the Pace–Catching up with John Hiraldo:** Mike Valiante caught up with Midlantic-based rider John Hiraldo, one of 2021's leading apprentice riders.

**Maryland Juvenile Championship: A mystery solved, 35 years later:** An insider story supplied by trainer Bill Boniface about his charge Deputed Testamony provides a closer look at the running of the race that yielded two classic winners. Vinnie Perrone reports.

**Still dancing, Billy Christmas and Eddie Gaudet:** With word that longtime racetracker Billy Christmas had passed away, it was time to repost a 2013 video with Billy Christmas and Eddie Gaudet.

**Sanchez looking to "Put my name out there":** Jockey Mychel Sanchez, long based at Parx Racing, spread his wings a bit in 2021 with pretty positive results, reports Frank Vespe.

**Backtracks–Open Mind runs the table:** Jennifer Kelly remembers New Jersey-bred Open Mind, who recorded a stunning 10-race win streak which punctuated her Hall of Fame career.

**Maryland racing recognizes grooms:** A partnership between the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association and Maryland Jockey Club recognizes grooms each racing day writes Peter Monaco.

## Graded SW, Classic-Placed Son of CURLIN

# IRISH WAR CRY

**Curlin – Irish Sovereign, by Polish Numbers** | *$6,500 LF*

**At 2:** WON Marylander S. in 2nd start, **TDN Rising Star** after Debut

**At 3:** WON Holy Bull S.-G2 (11 Beyer), Wood Memorial S.-G2 (101 Beyer), 2nd Belmont S.-G1 (by two lengths)

**At 4:** WON Pimlico Special S.-G3 by 4 1/2 lengths

**CAREER EARNINGS: $1,257,060**

**By CURLIN, Two-Time Horse of the Year 2021 Leading Sire with FIVE G1 SWs**

**Promising Sons at Stud Include:**

- **CONNECT** – #2 Leading Freshman in 2021
- **GOOD MAGIC** – Top 5 First-Crop Yearling Sales Sire with $151,708 Average
- **PALACE MALICE** – Top 10 Kentucky Sire First-Crop (2019), Second-Crop (2020), Third-Crop (2021)
- **EXAGGERATOR** – Top 10 Leading First-Crop Sire (2020) and Second-Crop Sire (2021)

First Foals Are 2YOs in 2022

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Photo Credit: Louise E. Reinagel

# Runners make the best sires– All our stallions could run

AIROFORCE WINNING GRADE 2 KY JOCKEY CLUB S AT 2

## Airoforce

COLONEL JOHN–CHOCOLATE POP, by Cuvee

Multiple graded SW at 2, on dirt and turf at 1 1⁄16 miles. G1-placed at 2. Multiple graded-placed at 3. Earned $679,130.

The region's most precocious juvenile runner at stud, earning $129,000 per start as a 2YO.

Defeated GUN RUNNER, MOR SPIRIT, MO TOM, RATED R SUPERSTAR, and 17 additional graded SWs.

By Tiznow's G1 son COLONEL JOHN, from a family of champions.

$2,500 LF Registered PA stallion, BC nom.

GOLDDIGGER'S BOY WON THE LYMAN H TWICE

## Golddigger's Boy

JUMP START–GOLDDIGGER BEWARE, by Prenup

Multiple stakes winner of $585,985. Eight wins in 27 starts. Ran 7 fur. in 1:21.24, 6½ fur. in 1:15.47. Scored 90 or better Beyer figures in over half his starts.

A top 10 earner of leading sire JUMP START, representing the A.P. Indy line.

70% winners/starters. Sire of allowance winners Copperhead Creek ($112,272), Eagles' Cry ($86,499), Diggers Diamond ($69,508) from limited opportunity.

$2,500 LF Registered PA stallion

# Smarty Jones

ELUSIVE QUALITY–I'LL GET ALONG, by Smile

The region's only champion and dual classic winner at stud.

Earned over $7.6 million, the highest earner at stud in the region.

Leading sire in the Mid-Atlantic with lifetime AE/runner* of $90,864
*Northern Hemisphere

Sire of 36 stakes winners, including three champions, 14 GSWs.

$3,500 LF Registered PA stallion, BC nom.

SMARTY JONES WON G1 PREAKNESS BY A RECORD 11 ½ LENGTHS

# Uncle Vinny

UNCLE MO–AREALHOTLOVER, by Untuttable

The only son of champion and leading sire UNCLE MO standing in PA

Winner at 2 of Saratoga's Grade 3 Sanford S and placed third in Saratoga's Grade 1 Hopeful S.

Out of a stakes-winning, multiple stakes-producer, from the hard-knocking solid family of millionaire BLAZING SWORD, with 23 stakes horses in his first three dams.

Six winners from nine starters in his first small crops.

$2,500 LF Registered PA stallion, BC nom.

UNCLE VINNY WON SARATOGA'S GRADE 3 SANFORD S AT 2

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**PENSIONER ON PARADE** by Maggie Kimmitt

# Poppy's Punkin

MAGGIE KIMMITT

**Larry Horning with Poppy's Punkin.**

It's not how you start; it's how you finish. Poppy's Punkin earned high marks in both cases. He began his career with a resounding win on debut as a 3-year-old at Laurel Park in 2007. He finished six years later with another score at Pimlico. Now 18, the bay gelding enjoys a privileged retirement on Christy Clagett's Larking Hill Farm in Harwood, Md.

Bred in Maryland by Carol Horning-Whoerle, Poppy's Punkin (Awesome Again—Poppy's Passion, by Miswaki) ran in her name and was trained by her son, Larry Horning Jr. Horning trained for 33 years, retiring in 2013 after 212 wins and more than $3.1 million earnings.

Poppy's Punkin's older half brother (by Summer Squall), Captain Chessie, led the way among Horning trainees as the winner of the 2004 Taking Risk Stakes and $227,575. Poppy's Punkin's $196,315 put him second on Horning's list, but when Horning decided to call it a day, Poppy's Punkin followed him into retirement.

"My mother bred this horse, my dad and I bought his dam as a yearling [for $90,000] at Keeneland in 1987, she was named for my father," Horning said. "All his grandkids called him Poppy, and his passion was horse racing. Poppy's Passion was a freakish kind of horse. She only ran three times, won twice and got beat a nose in the other race. She used to run with her tail sticking straight out; she was special."

She rewarded the Hornings by producing eight foals. Seven raced. Six won.

Poppy's Punkin was the last foal out of Poppy's Passion to make it to the races. And the gelding's first start convinced Horning the apple hadn't fallen far from the feed tub. Going 5½ furlongs on the dirt at Laurel Park, he broke a step slow but immediately took over and led at every call. He backed it up with a third in allowance company next time.

"After that, I had calls from all over the country from people wanting to buy him," Horning said.

Knee surgery to remove a bone chip stopped any serious thoughts of a sale, and Poppy's Punkin returned as a 4-year-old. He won three of seven starts, wrapping up the season with a fourth in Laurel's Jennings Handicap.

Back at age 5 in 2009, Poppy's Punkin was sidelined again after just two outings. It was 13 months before Horning ran him again.

"He had recurring problems that kept popping up," he said. "The whole family had issues with their feet. He had a condylar fracture and we had to put a screw in his front leg. He had colic, and thank God we caught it before it became necrotic. So he went through a lot, but he was a trooper."

A trooper who absolutely loved to train—more so, Horning declared, than any horse throughout his long career.

"He LOVED it. He'd be the first horse on the track every day. I was at Bowie for 20 years, right in Barn Five next to the bridge. So he'd go to the track as soon as it opened, and he'd look like a reindeer out there lunging and leaping through the air, just having a good old time."

Poppy's Punkin's good old time kept rolling when he returned to the races as a 6-year-old in 2010. Horning ran him in allowance/optional claiming races and the occasional small stakes, with his best black-type finish a second in the Chesapeake Stakes at Colonial Downs that summer.

In 2011, Poppy's Punkin ran twice for a tag before winning a starter allowance at Timonium. But misfortune found him again, and he exited that race with an eye injury that prompted yet another hiatus.

"He came out of that race with a big cloud in his eye," Horning said. "He was in front the whole way, so we've never been sure what got in there. My vet at the time thought it was an autoimmune thing; it would just come up in the spring and late summer."

If you thought Poppy's Punkin was finished, you were wrong. Never happy during his downtime, the 8-year-old came back in 2012. Horning again opted for allowance/optional claiming conditions for the first half of the season before testing the claiming waters at Delaware Park that July. He lost the horse for $20,000 to Scott Lake and owner Ben Mondello.

"Look, you've got to run them where they belong," Horning said, "but I was upset to lose him."

Three starts later, Poppy's Punkin ran for a $5,000 tag at Parx, and trainer James Nicholson Jr. dropped the slip. Seven months later, Poppy's Punkin made his final start in a waiver claiming event at Pimlico for Horning. The 9-year-old won by 1¾ lengths. Horning officially closed the book on his career with final numbers of 35-8-4-9 and $196,315.

Less than three months later, Horning announced his retirement.

"I had five stents put in my right coronary artery, so I said 'OK, that's it.' I have nine grandkids and I wanted to be here for them. I wasn't a young man, and training is very labor intensive."

Like his gritty campaigner, Horning overcame a great deal before moving on to his next chapter. In 1985, he was the only survivor in the small plane crash that took the lives of fellow trainer and close friend Harrison Johnson and one of Johnson's clients. The trio were flying from Saratoga to Virginia, with Johnson as pilot, when the accident occurred.

Poppy's Punkin is the only horse Horning kept after finding homes and second careers for the rest of his runners. On Aug. 1, 2013, he moved the bay gelding to Larking Hill, just south of Annapolis and near his home in Harwood.

While many of his contemporaries enjoy the golf course, Horning prefers to spend his mornings visiting "Rooster," as Poppy's Punkin has always been called.

"I brush him every day, take care of his feet, muck his stall and fill a nice haynet for him. He knows my truck. I pull into the farm, and he starts screaming and yelling. He knows Daddy's there."

Horning can't sing the praises of Larking Hill's Christy Clagett loudly enough, crediting her with the care given his retiree, whose stall and paddock are closest to her house.

"He was always a very generous racehorse. He went out there and gave his best every time. And Christy takes such good care of him I could probably put a bridle on, lead him over to the paddock at Laurel and he'd fit right in."

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Tod Marks photos

MAGGIE KIMMITT

# Dreaming of a reset for racing

Back when I worked at the *Cecil Whig*, then perhaps the world's smallest daily newspaper, the bosses would periodically bring in guest speakers to help us learn how to do our jobs better and/or more efficiently.

The sessions frequently occurred on Saturdays, when we were supposed to not be working or at least not on deadline (the paper published Monday-Friday) and involved things we pretty much already knew: manage your time, know your community, cultivate story ideas and sources for such ideas, then do it better, over and over.

Of course, most of us scoffed—we were young, cocky, overworked, underpaid—and I remember telling someone how good it all sounded except for one thing. We had to keep working. If we could only stop putting out the newspaper, we could actually make the newspaper better. They wanted us to build a better newspaper, while building a newspaper, which felt impossible.

I can't help but see parallels to where the Thoroughbred industry finds itself.

Jorge Navarro, a leading trainer in the national standings for years and a multiple leading trainer at New Jersey's Monmouth Park, was just sentenced to five years in federal prison for cheating. He pleaded guilty. Another former national leader charged in the federal investigation, Jason Servis, awaits a trial. Navarro's sentence also ordered him to pay $25.8 million, roughly the purses earned by horses he trained from 2016 until his arrest in March 2020. Of course, most of that money went to the horse owners who thus far haven't been charged or ordered to pay restitution. Furthermore, horses trained by Navarro and Servis stand at stud—attracting mares based on performances nobody really wants to discuss too much. Talk about the law of unintended consequences.

The 2021 Kentucky Derby-G1 winner* and Breeders' Cup Classic-G1 runner-up Medina Spirit died while training in December at Santa Anita Park (*he crossed the finish line first, but tested over the limit for a medication and the result remains in doubt despite occurring eight months ago). His trainer Bob Baffert has been banned from the Derby for two years and his horses can't earn points toward entry in the 2022 race, though Kentucky's racing commission has yet to issue a ruling and it all sounds temporary or at least unsettled. Medina Spirit deserved better, but only racing could create such a story.

Federal oversight of racing is supposed to begin in July. It's January. Noble work has been done, but ask around. Most everybody I talk to really wants this to be successful and a smooth transition. Few express confidence. There is a Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority website. There are big names on boards and committees and panels. In December, the authority submitted draft racetrack safety regulations to the Federal Trade Commission for review and public comment. You can download, read and post comments on a 162-page document. More draft rules, for anti-doping and medication control, were expected before the end of the year. Also in December, HISA announced that race-day testing would remain with state commissions until 2023 but the authority would administer out-of-competition testing starting in July. Sometimes, racing really is a Rubik's Cube.

For the second time in 2021, racing was suspended at Maryland's Laurel Park due to issues with the dirt surface. The first time, in April, sent the racing schedule to Pimlico and forced the relocation of horses and grooms to that Baltimore track and Timonium for months as the track was overhauled. The latest shutdown came in December, after seven horses were fatally injured on the track in November. Seven. In less than a month. The Maryland Racing Commission got involved, the track issues were addressed by a team of experts and racing resumed Dec. 16. But there was a lot of breath-holding as the year ended.

Because it's racing, you can rest assured there is more. There's always more and it's difficult to see racing getting out of its own way long enough to fix itself. Like the old story about being unprepared, you can't expect to build the landing gear while you're flying the plane.

In a dream world—such as the one I thought of when I worked for that newspaper—racing could stop and find some sort of reset button. Just shut it down. Don't race, don't bet, don't sell, don't do anything but take care of the horses and plan for a better future. Use the pause to find common ground on national rules; figure out the best way to construct and maintain racetracks that operate year-round; once and for all, hilarious I know, create regulations and penalties that apply at every jurisdiction in the country—for horses, trainers, jockeys, owners, veterinarians, staff, medication usage, prohibited substances, racing dates, racing surfaces, takeout, wagering rules, stallion bookings, aftercare, state breeding programs, everything. E-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g.

Racing can't stop. I know that. It will never happen, and shouldn't or couldn't, but imagine how good the newspaper—er, sport—could be. ✹

# Maryland Million Stallion Nominations Deadline

# JANUARY 31, 2022

Questions? Call us at 410-252-2100 MarylandMillion.com

## MARYLAND MILLION NOMINATIONS – STALLIONS FOR 2022

Only stallions standing the upcoming breeding season in Maryland are eligible to be nominated to this program. The total nomination fee as reported on this form should equal the advertised stud fee or, if not advertised, the prevailing fee paid by third parties. Under no circumstances shall the nomination fee be less than $500 or greater than $20,000, regardless of stud fee. Read carefully all terms and conditions at MarylandMillion.com before nominating any stallion.

*Stallion name:*

_____

*2022 Stud Fee:*

_____

**PAYMENT OPTION 1: Pay full stud fee less 10% discount**

*Due 1/31/22:* _____

**PAYMENT OPTION 2: Full fee in two payments**

*Due 1/31/22* _____ *Due 7/31/22** _____

**Balances not paid by July 31 will be subject to a ten (10) percent late charge.*

### Stallion Ownership Record

Tax Identification Number (TIN) used on this stallion:

❑ S.S.# _____

or

❑ I.D.# _____

Exact name of the person or business on record with Internal Revenue Service/Social Security Administration for this TIN:

_____

Maryland farm name where stallion will stand:

_____

### Nominator Record

Check one: ❑ Owner ❑ Syndicate manager ❑ Authorized

_____

Name of individual signing this form (please print)

_____

Address

_____

Phone E-mail

_____

Signature (This form must be signed for awards to be paid)

**Payment method:** ❑ Payment enclosed or

❑ VISA ❑ MASTERCARD Exp. date __ __/__ __ Card no. __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

Photocopies of this form may be used for additional stallions. However, the nominator agrees, by signing, to accept the terms and conditions printed on the back of the original version. If no terms and conditions are printed on the back of this form, the nominator is advised to contact the Maryland Million office for a copy of such terms and conditions before signing the front.

# Dream Team

## *Pineaus craft long-term success with Maryland breeding program*

By Sandra McKee. Photographs by Sara Gordon.

It's a frosty morning at Three Pines Farm in the Worthington Valley in Maryland, and the view is magnificent as you look across the gently rolling land that comprises the roughly 76-acre breeding farm.

Nineteen horses are spread around a bevy of paddocks that hold 10 broodmares, eight weanlings and a yearling colt, who turned 2 Jan. 1.

It is a sight small-animal veterinarians Drs. A. Leonard Pineau Jr. and his wife, Patricia, dreamed of from the time they were married 45 years ago. Over the decades since, they've worked to build their broodmare dream into a successful–and unusual–business.

From the intricate research on matching mares to stallions, putting the "puzzle pieces" together with endless reading, old-school guile and gut feelings, to avoiding fame, attention and lavish financial statistics, their goal has been simple: "We love creating the broodmare." It's a singular focus that sets the Pineaus–and their farm–apart.

### A cozy spot

Entering the Pineau farm requires a short drive through a wood, as the last leaves of winter continue to fall and cover the drive with their late autumn cacophony of color, until you break out on a short hill and see the nine-stall barn to the left and a comfortable home at the bottom of the drive.

The fields and horses spread out like a painted landscape between the two buildings.

There is no escaping the landscape, even from within. Once you enter the Pineau home, and walk into their cozy living room that opens to the kitchen and a bank of windows along two walls, the view is there ready to be enjoyed.

"We love to walk out in the morning and see every one of our horses out there where they're supposed to be," Pat says.

Horses, the Pineaus have loved them since childhood–he growing up with his horse-owner father, Leonard Sr., here in Maryland, where he also was part of what was known as the McDonogh School Calvary; and she, while growing up "horse crazy" in England, when she would spend her free time with the local blacksmith.

"I was crazy about horses," Pat Pineau told *Maryland Horse* writer Snowden Carter in 1981 and repeated recently. "I used to sit on the fence and gaze away at the horses owned by a neighbor. After doing that one afternoon, I told my parents I was going to become a vet."

A continent away, Lenny was making a similar decision. But both eventually decided to make a change. In England, after graduating from Bristol University, she decided to become a small-animal veterinarian and pursued that with study in the United States.

Lenny, however, was still studying for a career as a large-animal vet, so he could care for horses.

What happened, you may wonder? The romantic part of the story is that once Lenny met Pat on an elevator at the University of Pennsylvania's veterinary college, he was so smitten, he simply decided to change his focus so they could work together.

"The truth," he says. "My senior year, I was already thinking about lifestyle issues. Being a big-animal vet would have required a 24-7 commitment. With small animals, there are emergency veterinary centers that allow you to date and have a family."

But, he admits, meeting Pat clinched the decision. Three years later, in 1976, they married, after she had earned a master's degree in immunology and spent 18 months back home in England; and he'd graduated from vet school and had gone to work at Aardmore Veterinary Hospital in Baltimore.

Soon they bought the veterinary practice, which they've turned into a successful 5,000-client business, bought a farm they turned into a broodmare business and raised three children–none of whom, however, caught the horse bug in a serious way.

These days, Pat, 72 and a week older than her husband, is retired from the practice and is enjoying being a grandmother and spending her free time in her many flower gardens, which also can be seen thriving, even in winter, outside their many windows.

Lenny, however, continues their vet practice and the two of them personally take care of their horses on Sundays.

"Good help is hard to find," Pat says. "But last February, we found a wonderful man, Darren Carder, who is our farm manager. He works Monday through Saturday and we take care of the horses on Sunday."

### Southern comfort

Carder, who moved to Maryland from Tennessee with his fiancée Lauren Shook who wanted to return to her Baltimore roots, came to work for the Pineaus in February 2021.

**Patricia and Leonard Pineau flank broodmare Listen Boy on their farm in Glyndon, Md.**

"It's a funny story," Carder says. "My fiancée works for the Pineaus at the Aardmore Veterinary office and I was leaving Green Spring Valley Hunt Club and looking for a job in the racehorse industry. Lauren was talking to Dr. Pineau about it at work and he said, 'Well, I have a position open. Tell him to come by for an interview.' I did and I've been here ever since."

At Green Spring, Carder was a kennel man who took care of the hounds and horses and rode whip for them at times, but wasn't getting the kind of hands-on horse experience he was looking for.

Now with the Pineaus he is getting every hands-on experience he could hope for. Taking care of the overall property and the daily horse husbandry–feeding, watering, stall work–is routine.

But he also ships out some of the horses for training and after sales. And he

trains those weanlings and preps them and the yearlings for sale.

"I'm a firm believer that as soon as a baby hits the ground you start their training," says Carder, who learned the practice from Pineau. "The first five days are so important. Thoroughbreds are different kinds of horses. They're born for hysteria. That's just the way they are. They're wonderful animals, but if they do not get that human interaction within the first five days of life, they can become feral and not want to be around humans. So I start that process. And then at the end of the foaling season, after they are weaned, I start their training all over. They'll come into the barn every day, get groomed, feet picked up, learn how to take a bit in their mouth. How to stand up and be quiet. How to stand for the vet . . ."

If the Pineaus are happy with his work at Three Pines Farm, Carder couldn't be happier to be working for them. He says Dr. Pineau teaches him something new every day and he is fascinated by how the breeder goes about matching his mares with stallions at breeding time.

"Dr. Pineau is absolutely wonderful at pairing his mares with stallions and through the lineages," Carder says. "He looks at everything and I've been learning from him. Most definitely. Learning what to look for while pairing these mares with stallions and what the end result is going to be. It's tremendous. It's wonderful.

"There are so many moving parts. He'll say, 'I'm looking for this for this mare.' And I'll say, 'Why didn't you look for that with that other one?' And he'll say, 'Well, it wasn't that important.' There's a lot of different puzzle pieces, that's for sure."

Carder's southern voice is full of happiness. He says he will never leave the Thoroughbred industry now.

"There is nothing more satisfying than being able to see yearlings or weanlings you've produced grow up to be racehorses – and win," he says.

## From pinhooking to broodmare creator

Working as a small animal vet, taking care of everything from cats and dogs to rabbits, snakes and parrots, Lenny and Pat Pineau still dreamed of somehow being involved in the Thoroughbred industry.

Lenny, of course, came by it naturally. His dad, Arthur, was a Thoroughbred owner in Maryland for more than 40 years. As a boy, Lenny would go to the track with his dad to watch the horses run every Saturday – or any other day he was off from school.

In the end, the industry and learning all about the Thoroughbreds' personal traits and abilities became his biggest passion.

His first effort to find a way into the industry was as a pinhooker, someone who picks out good horses for others to buy later. It is more work than one might think. A pinhooker has to know breeding, bloodlines and racing results–not to mention marketability.

For several years he worked that job as "an imaginary job," he says.

He'd pick a horse he liked based on what he learned in the *Daily Racing Form* and in sales catalogs. While never actually buying a horse, he'd watch his selections for the next couple years to see how they did.

He is obviously a patient man.

But in 1976, at age 27, having set aside some money for the purpose, he went to the Keeneland horse sales and bought two yearlings in his and his wife's name and in the names of his parents. He sold them the next year at the Timonium 2-year-old training sale and more than doubled his money.

He got braver as time went on. Two years later, in 1978, he spent $60,000 on yearlings at Keeneland and sold them a year later at Hialeah for $150,000. He did all this before the Pineaus even had a farm.

In 1979, they bought this rare piece of property on Worthington Avenue, adjacent to the famous Sagamore Farm that Native Dancer, Discovery and Bed o' Roses called home. The Pineaus built their home there and named it Three Pines Farm, combining their lucky number and the first four letters of their last name.

And, while their farm's name or even their formal racing name, Triple Tree Stable, may not be as famous as some of its neighbors–they don't even have the farm's name on a sign on their driveway.

"It's not a commercial farm," Lenny says. "It's our home." Still, it has had an impressive share of success.

It started when he began to work as a pinhooker for real in 1981, putting together one of the industry's earliest partnerships and found he could offer his partners

**The Pineaus show off a few members of the 2021 weanling crop.**

his expertise to provide a balanced portfolio. It was a way to invite new people into racing and also, when the horses were sold or made "significant money" at the track, a way to build his business.

Now, of course, the partnerships are history and the only horses on the property belong to the Pineaus, except for a few whose ownership is shared with their trainer Mary Eppler.

The broodmare Wood Not has been a resident since 2006 and has been busy. So far, she has produced 12 foals–nine starters of which six have won, four are stakes horses and combined they have earned $1.11 million, led by graded stakes winner Purely Hot, who later sold for $1.2 million.

Last year was supposed to be Wood Not's final year in the breeding shed, but her foal had an easy delivery and Wood Not is known "for how much she loves her babies," says Carder, the farm manager.

Wood Not, 21, is in foal to World of Trouble. Pineau bred a mare to that stallion in 2020 and was impressed by the foal and decided to use the stallion again, but this time with Wood Not, the farm's longest resident.

"Wood Not always surprises me," Pineau says. "She doesn't look her age and I don't know if this year will be her last breeding season or not. I guess I'll breed her until she tells me not to."

Purely Hot has gone on to be the dam of Grade 1 winner Eight Rings. Eight Rings is named for New England Patriots coach Bill Belichick and his eight Super Bowl rings (two with the New York Giants), and finished fourth in the 2021 Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile-G1.

It seems Wood Not's offspring like football, as another of her foals is named T Sizzle, for retired Baltimore Ravens' great Terrell Suggs.

In 2020, the Pineaus were the breeders of 2-year-old Maryland-bred champion Jaxon Traveler, mating the stallion Munnings with their broodmare Listen Boy; and 2-year-old graded stakes-placed After Five, the result of pairing The Factor with Idle Talk.

Overall, they've bred or raced more than 20 stakes horses, including Ten Out of Ten and Music City. And, of the 152 named Maryland-breds they've created, 106 have been winners.

But Lenny Pineau can't tell you which of his weanlings or yearlings have sold for the highest price. He can tell you that mares he has bought and resold have produced more than 20 stakes quality horses. And, he does remember one mare he claimed for less than $25,000 was bought back by its original owner for $250,000.

"But I'm not interested in bragging rights," he says. "I just love horses and the industry. I love the research. I'm constantly looking for mares and evaluating stallions and their ability to produce and figuring out how they cross with the mares I have."

Among the mares the Pineaus share with Eppler is Idle Talk, whose son After Five was in the Breeders' Cup as a 2-year-old in 2020.

"Mary is a close friend and she's trained for us for many years," Pineau says. "She trained Idle Talk, who won over $300,000 and is a stakes winner."

## A 50-50 partnership

The Pineaus and Eppler split all their investments together 50-50. Eppler thinks one of the best horses the partnership has owned was Ragtime Doll, a mare she trained and owned half of before the Pineaus bought the other half.

Over Ragtime Doll's racing career, she was a stakes winner who won five times in 22 starts, collecting $129,665. As a broodmare, she produced 11 foals; 10 started, all won. Through their combined careers, those starters earned $1.27 million.

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# EDITORIAL

**Half to Uncle Mo**

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**Foundation mare Wood Not, now 21, soaks up some sun at Three Pines Farm.**

They also share partnerships in Factorintheheat and Truly Hot. The Pineaus bred and raced the latter, a daughter of Pollard's Vision and Wood Not, lost her via a $10,000 claim in March 2018, claimed her back with Eppler for $7,500 that August and are hoping for her first foal this year after breeding her to champion Accelerate.

"We've had a great relationship," Eppler says. "We trust each other."

Pineau remembers first seeing Eppler as an exercise rider and Eppler remembers their first contact came in 1992, when Pineau called to ask her if she could transport a horse back to Maryland from the Meadowlands.

"I had a horse running there and he had one of his there that he wanted brought back and I could help him, so I did," she says.

Things progressed from there. Eppler was able to help him buy a mare named Lip Sing in 1993, and some time after that, they did meet and she started training some of the mares he was claiming.

"He's really into the broodmare and into making broodmares," she says. "It's unusual. He'd claim a lot of horses. I did a lot of that [putting the claims in] for him. Normally, he'd like to see if he could get a return for the money. He'd let me run them or back then, when the claiming rules were totally different, if they were not suitable for running, he'd make them broodmares."

Eppler says unlike many breeders, Pineau is very much into creating broodmares, not buying those who already have their reputations made. She says that, too, is an unusual approach.

"He's had a lot of success that way," she says. "There are a lot of ways to do it. Sometimes he may keep them and run them a couple times in establishing a mare's worth as a broodmare and [then] putting them in a sale with a good reputation. Or, he keeps them and just sells their babies. Or, he keeps them and runs the babies.

"I've had a lot of success with some of his horses, those he's claimed and those he's bred," she continued. "I believe the reason he's had such success is purely the way he does his research."

When asked, Eppler says she doesn't think his success has much to do with Pineau being a vet, though she says he's a wonderful small-animal vet who treats her small dog and cat. "But, I really believe it's about the research work he puts in."

"I love creating [the broodmare]," says Pineau. "The marketability of the mares that are new and recently in foal are now more valuable than those with good past product history. That's because the future is in front of you . . . It's like drafting football players. Their futures are ahead of them."

There aren't many farms like his. He isn't interested in marketing a stallion by building its reputation. His goal is "to try to maximize the value of the foal—with its pedigree, race record and the racing ability of the mare. I'm always looking for something marketable and a good buy."

Pineau spends time every day doing his research, looking at the *Racing Form*, sales catalogs, Equibase, Equineline, anything he can find as a source of information about horses he is interested in.

"Every day I'm involved in the horse industry," he says. "Online or on the phone, it's my main passion and my main hobby, though I also like snowboarding. My wife says I never run out of energy."

Especially when that extra energy is being directed toward his horses.

"My goal is the same as ever," Pineau says. "To continue to breed the best horses I can, to market them and race." ✹

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# Strength in Strategy

## *Northview, Besecker partnership continues prosperous reign at December mixed sale*

Story and photographs by Sara Gordon

For the third time in two years, New York-bred Safalow's Mission strode into a Fasig-Tipton sales ring. The striking dark bay, a now 3-year-old son of Mission Impazible, oozed confidence and class as he took his place in the center, with one ear flicked back toward the auctioneer stand, while one ear remained forward, focused on the potential bidders around the pavilion at the Midlantic December mixed sale in Timonium, Md., Dec. 7.

Within 94 seconds, the opening bid of $10,000 grew until the hammer came down on the final bid of $130,000, with trainer Linda Rice, agent for Thelma & Louise Stable, signing the ticket. The colt was the third consecutive Midlantic December sales-topper consigned by Northview Stallion Station as agent for Joe Besecker.

"He was a horse that we knew was going to draw a lot of attention because he's eligible for the New York Stallion Series that's coming up [in late December], worth half a million dollars," said Northview's David Wade. "[Linda] contacted us over the phone to get some information, so we knew that she was interested in the horse. It's kind of cool when somebody you know, that's been asking about a horse, has a little bit of trust in you and follows through at that level. We're not always necessarily trying to get the sales-topper, but it's always gratifying."

For the third year in a row, Besecker's large consignment of horses of racing age fueled the supplemental catalogue and boosted the sale, as 108 horses of racing age sold for a total of $2,312,700. He offered 67 racehorses, with 48 selling for $1,098,200, as part of his reduction of racing stock handled by Northview.

Along with Safalow's Mission, other notable juvenile purchases from Besecker's roster included Pennsylvania-bred Buff Hello, a son of Buffum who won the

## SALES LEADERS

**$130,000.** Safalow's Mission, 2019, dk.b./br.g., Mission Impazible—Mosaico, by City Zip (N.Y.); Joseph Besecker (reduction of racing stock), Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agent; Thelma & Louise Stable, Linda Rice agent.

**$120,000.** Money Fromheaven, ch.m., 2016, Munnings—Smart Policy, by Smart Strike (Md.); Greenmount Farm agent; Stoneriggs Farm.

**$100,000.** Dad's Princess, b.m., 2012, Mineshaft—Rooneys Princess, by Deputy Minister (Ky.) (in foal to Omaha Beach); Becky Davis Inc. agent; Bonita Farm agent.

**$95,000.** Buff Hello, b.c., 2019, Buffum—Spanish Dream, by Sharp Humor (Pa.); Joseph Besecker (reduction of racing stock), Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agent; Euro Stable.

**$85,000.** Artemus Citylimits, b.g., 2017, Temple City—Dene Court, by City Zip (Ont.); Marshall W. Silverman agent; Sean Perl Bloodstock LLC.

**$80,000.** Classic Lynne, ch.f., 2019, Classic Empire—Tristanme, by Bwana Charlie (N.Y.); Joseph Besecker (reduction of racing stock), Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agent; Jordan Wycoff.

**$60,000.** City At Night, b.c., 2019, Temple City—My Twilight Dancer, by Twilight Agenda (Ky.); Marshall W. Silverman agent; Stable HMA.

**$57,000.** Slaats, b.c., 2019, Palace—Tregrandibambini, by Stonesider (Ky.); Joseph Besecker (reduction of racing stock), Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agent; Chris Aulds.

**$52,000.** Cosmicality, gr./ro.c., 2018, Broken Vow—Kosmo's Buddy, by Outflanker (Md.); Gracie Bloodstock agent (to dissolve a partnership); A. Ferris Allen III.

**$51,000.** Lanfrankophile, dk.b./br.f., 2019, Practical Joke—Mentally Unstable, by Good Reward (Ky.); Joseph Besecker (reduction of racing stock), Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), agent; Ben Mondello.

**$50,000.** Ella Speed, b.f., 2021, Vino Rosso—Dearest Ella, by Candy Ride (Arg) (N.Y.); Sally Thomas agent; Brookstone Farm.

Maryland Million Nursery and sold for $95,000 to Euro Stable and will continue training with Claudio Gonzalez; New York-bred Classic Lynne, a filly by Classic Empire who broke her maiden at Belmont Park in October and sold for $80,000 to Jordan Wycoff; and Kentucky-bred Slaats, a Palace colt who finished second in the Timonium Juvenile Stakes last August and sold for $57,000 to Chris Aulds.

"This year, we put just about everything in. There's probably a dozen we didn't put in the sale, for example we had Uncle Buddy running on the same day in the Pennsylvania Nursery, but the main reason [we do this] is because we're just so active in the claiming game that when it comes to the numbers, next thing you know you're easily over 100 horses in training, so we like to hit the reset button," said Jeff Matty, Besecker's racing manager. "Usually when you see that many buybacks from our end, some would say, 'Are you disappointed?' And the answer is no, because we ran them through the ring to give us that option and we're perfectly fine running them. We did it to move some along and get some off of the books, and the ones that we're left with, we're anxiously anticipating their next starts."

Besecker's large consignments with Northview at the Midlantic December sale began in 2019, where he sold 95 of the 97 horses offered, including 74 horses of racing age, highlighted by sales topper Laddie Liam. The Maryland-bred son of Golden Lad, winner of the 2019 Maryland Juvenile Futurity, sold for $450,000.

Last year, despite the pandemic's negative impact on the sales marketplace resulting in a smaller catalog, Besecker sold 19 of 29 consigned (horses of racing age and broodmares) and topped the sale once again, this time with graded stakes winner Fly On Angel, who sold as a racing or broodmare prospect for $195,000.

Along with the horses of racing age at this sale, Besecker also sold six broodmares, three weanlings and a yearling, though he added two more to the roster when he bought Quick Breeze, a Ghostzapper mare in foal to Great Notion, for $12,500 and a weanling filly by Hoppertunity for $14,000, both from the Northview consignment.

"We'd been hoping to do a horses of racing age supplement for years and it was just hard to get the numbers, so when [Besecker] first started a couple years ago, those numbers brought the people, brought the trainers," said Paget Bennett, director of Fasig-Tipton's Midlantic division. "Sellers have seen that it works, and people want the racehorses, so it's kind of been a little bit of a snowball [effect], where every year you get another owner that sends you horses, so it's been good."

**Sales topper Safalow's Mission sold to New York trainer Linda Rice.**

The popularity was apparent just a few hips into the horses of racing age section of the sale, as Maryland-bred Money Fromheaven, consigned by GreenMount Farm as a racing or broodmare prospect, sold for $120,000 to Stoneriggs Farm. The 2018 Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship Stakes winner, a 6-year-old daughter of Munnings who earned $249,311 in 33 starts, was the second highest-selling horse and highest-priced Mid-Atlantic-bred.

Another standout was Maryland-bred Cosmicality, a 4-year-old half-brother to Breeders' Cup Classic-G1 winner and likely Horse of the Year Knicks Go, consigned by Gracie Bloodstock and purchased for $52,000 by Ferris Allen. The trainer also bought Ontario-bred Violet Jessop, one of Besecker's horses, for $20,000.

"We started off by doing all of our homework and kind of having all of the horses pre-appraised in our minds, as to what we thought they were worth, should they check out," said Allen. "So, our plan was to go in and buy where we could find a horse that checked out well, that we could

**Sold by GreenMount Farm, Money Fromheaven was the highest-priced Mid-Atlantic-bred at $120,000.**

buy within their appraisal, and we feel like we accomplished that."

Allen, working with daughter Jane Blayman, saw potential in Violent Jessop, a filly by Astern (Aus) who finished third in her 2-year-old debut and was fourth twice on the all-weather track at Woodbine. Her eligibility for starter allowance and maiden conditions were intriguing factors.

For Cosmicality, a victory going a mile on the turf last July caught Allen's attention.

"On the grass, he similarly made the lead [as he did in the past] but when he was challenged, he dug in with a lot of grit to win that race, so the extrapolation from that is that if he can duplicate that effort, then he's well worth what we paid for him. We think it's logical that he'll not only duplicate it, but he'll improve on it," said Allen. "We've found that if we do our homework and buy what we should buy, that gives anybody that may become our partners or may buy these horses a high level of confidence that we like these horses well enough to own them ourselves. It requires a good deal of gumption to be willing to stick your neck out like that, but we have enough faith in what we're doing and what we're selecting that we don't mind having skin in the game."

The large quantity of quality racehorses offered by Besecker and other owners not only fueled the success of the sale but improved the overall quality of the horses of racing age marketplace in the Mid-Atlantic, while providing buyers an extra sense of security when purchasing racehorses as it eliminates the unknowns that may come when dropping a claim slip.

"What Besecker has done over the last couple years is he has added a lot of buy-in to this market, and by the nature of the way he does it, he brings a lot of mid-range claimers into the market," said Allen. "So, with him dropping 50 or 60 horses in the sale like he does, that diffuses everyone's ammunition a little bit. In the past, with racing-age catalogs in this region, there have been so few prospects that they really get overpaid for and/or they're not of much quality, so it's a combination of poor supply and too much demand. But with all of the additions that he brings in here, it's really worth getting in there and looking at everything."

Northview had the largest consignment of the sale, selling 107 horses from 145 offered to lead by gross with $1,773,100, averaging $16,571. The breakdown of sold horses were 62 horses of racing age, 20 broodmares, 19 weanlings, three broodmare prospects and three yearlings, and required an immense amount of organization, coordination and effort on all fronts.

"My philosophy is, if you hire people that know what they're doing, leave 'em alone and let them do it. Having the right people makes everything run smoother, so I have my regular people help me recruit the experienced people that work a lot of sales down in Kentucky, and we bring them up, put them in hotel rooms, try to take care of them and let them do their thing," said Wade. "With the Besecker horses, Jeff Matty and Paul O'Loughlin work closely with Joe on these horses and they deal with the trainers and shippers, so they make arrangements to get the horses to the grounds and I'm there to receive them. We get them in, get them prepped and sometimes we run into difficulty with horses not having identification on them, but we get through it. Once again, it comes down to having the right people, and Jeff and Paul do an excellent job."

The horses of racing age supplement tends to be a challenge for consignors and the Fasig-Tipton team, as the open deadline saw horses entered as late as the Monday before the Tuesday sale.

"The most challenging part was trying to keep up with reserves and trying to get the announcements in for the horses. When you have a group of horses that are coming from a lot of different trainers, getting information like who's a cribber, trying to gather up who's on a vet list, getting the X-rays done at the different places in a timely manner, can be difficult and all of these things just have to kind of work together at the last minute," said Wade.

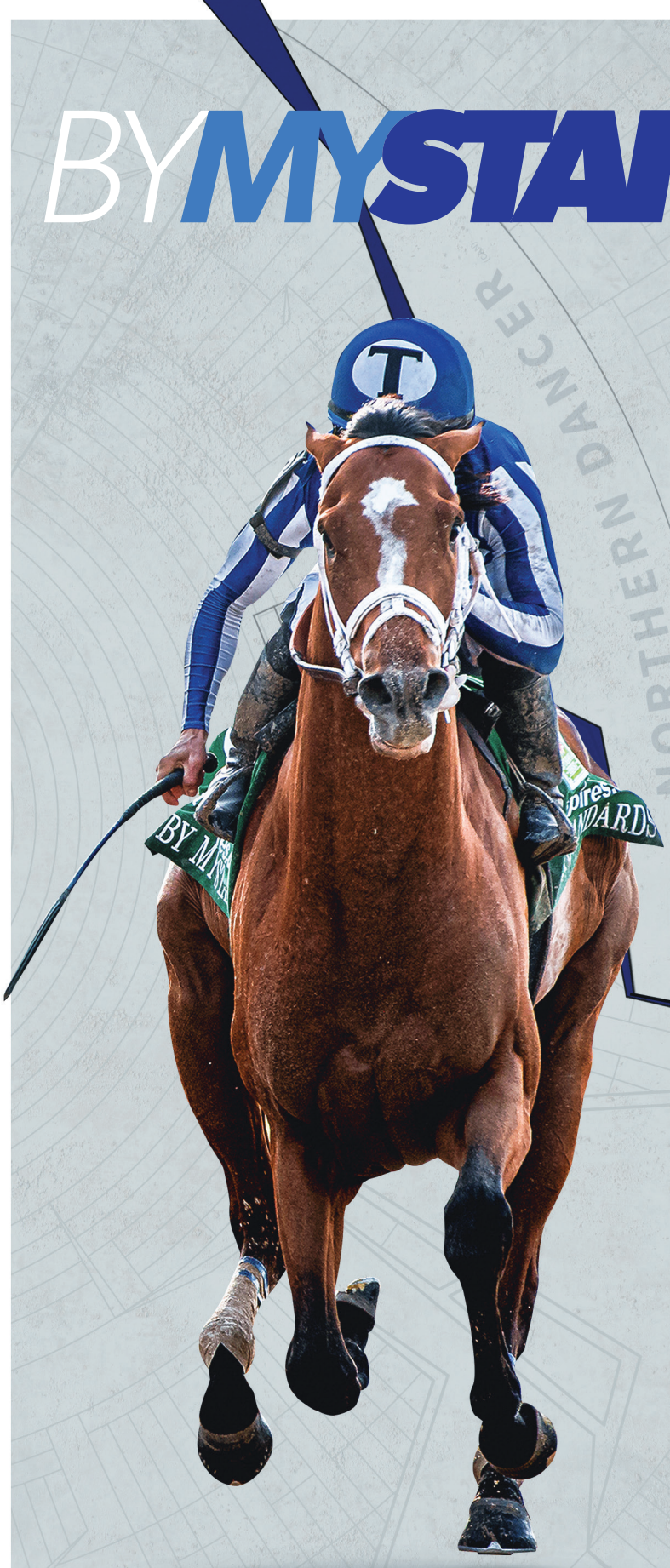
"Fasig-Tipton is not about it being too late, so we kept the deadline open until right before Thanksgiving for the racehorses. We had to get that put together and to the printers, there's just a lot to finalize and proof and everything else, so we did that. Then we would continuously get calls, whether it was somebody needing to add a mare, somebody needing to add a weanling, so we added them, trying to accommodate everybody who called," added Bennett.

Going the extra mile paid off, as the auctioneers made it through the main catalog and a few supplemental catalogs after that for a grand finale of 261 horses sold, from 332 offered, for a gross of $3,905,100, a 66.5 percent increase over last year's gross sales of $2,345,600 for 182 sold. The average rose 16.1 percent, to $14,962 from $12,888 in 2020, while the median doubled to $10,000 and the RNA rate fell slightly to 21.4 percent.

Marshall Silverman offered 45 and sold 37 for $559,500, with an average of $15,122, to finish second on the gross leaderboard for consignors. His consignment was led by Three Diamonds Farm's horses of racing age offerings, including stakes-placed Artemus Citylimits (sold for $85,000 to Sean Perl Bloodstock), now 3-year-old Temple City filly City At Night (sold for $60,000 to Stable HMA), and two-time winner Esotica (sold for $42,000 to Calumet Farm).

Chris Gracie's Gracie Bloodstock led consignors by average at $34,500. He sold

# BY MY STANDARDS



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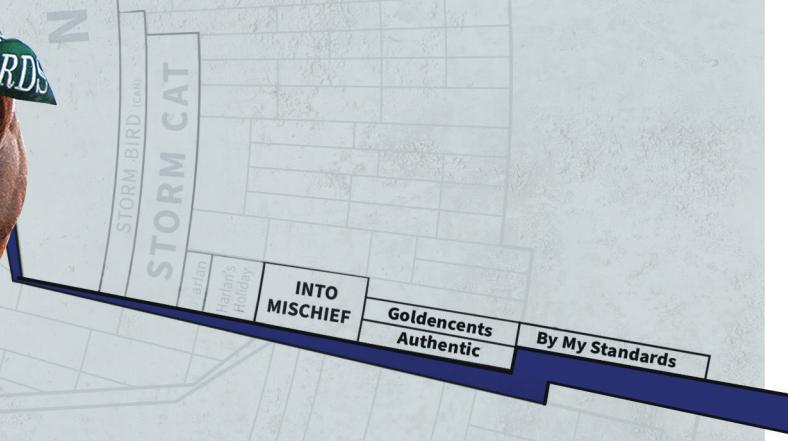


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all four offered, including Cosmicality, and a Pennsylvania-bred weanling filly by Maximus Mischief out of Virginia-bred stakes winner Complete St., purchased for $44,000 by Chuck Zacney. She was one of six purchased by Zacney, the other five horses of racing age, for a total of $159,000 spent as he led the buyers by gross.

Following the trend of leading New York-breds, a daughter of Vino Rosso out of Dearest Ella topped the weanling offerings as she sold for $50,000 to Brookstone Farm from the consignment of Sally Thomas.

Allen had hoped to take home a weanling or two as well but found himself outpriced each time.

"We found that the market ganged up on the better weanlings, so we were not able to get one," said Allen. "The better weanlings kind of outsold themselves."

Mike Palmer's Dreamtime Stables led the way with broodmare prospects, as Patrick Lawley-Wakelin, agent for Cambus-Kenneth Farm, went to $45,000 for Guatavita, a winning 5-year-old daughter of Lemon Drop Kid, and Preferred Equine, agent bid up to $23,000 for Belva Lockwood, a 5-year-old Pennsylvania-bred mare by Tiznow.

The sale of Guatavita, a Cornerstone Thoroughbreds homebred, was more bittersweet for Palmer than most, as he remembered her days at CandyLand Farm

## 25-Year figures from the Fasig-Tipton winter mixed sale

| Year | No. sold | Average | Gross | RNAs | Top Price | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2021 | 261 | $14,962 | $3,905,100 | 21% | $130,000 | 2yo g. Safalow's Mission (by Mission Impazible) |
| 2020 | 182 | 12,888 | 2,345,600 | 23% | $195,000 | 3yo f. Fly On Angel (by Palace Malice) |
| 2019 | 249 | 17,605 | 4,383,700 | 19% | $450,000 | 2yo c. Laddie Liam (by Golden Lad) |
| 2018 | 201 | 9,508 | 1,911,100 | 22% | $87,000 | wlg.c. by Peace and Justice |
| 2017 | 221 | 11,078 | 2,448,200 | 21% | $105,000 | 3yo c. Carradine (by Grasshopper) |
| 2017 | 141 | 6,428 | 906,400 | 29% | $70,000 | yrlg.c. by Dialed In |
| 2016 | 104 | 8,443 | 878,100 | 13% | $76,000 | yrlg.c. by Curlin |
| 2014 | 110 | 8,680 | 954,800 | 33% | $60,000 | brm. Delaneys Star (by Latent Heat), in foal to Majestic Warrior |
| 2013 | 133 | 11,404 | 1,516,700 | 28% | $100,000 | 3yo f. Mystic Love (by Not For Love) |
| 2012 | 140 | 8,216 | 1,150,200 | 28% | $100,000 | wlg.f. by Read the Footnotes |
| 2011 | 260 | 14,382 | 3,739,350 | 23% | $260,000 | brm. Salty Romance (by Salt Lake), in foal to Cosmonaut |
| 2010 | 158 | 6,127 | 968,100 | 43% | $130,000 | Baltimore Belle, 07 f., by Bowman's Band |
| 2009 | 169 | 4,593 | 776,300 | 37% | $95,000 | brm. Crystal Bull (by Holy Bull), in foal to Pollard's Vision |
| 2008 | 186 | 6,287 | 1,169,400 | 37% | $65,000 | brm. Colonial Ball (by Pleasant Colony), in foal to Henny Hughes |
| 2007 | 287 | 7,166 | 2,056,500 | 39% | $62,000 | wlg.c. by Golden Missile |
| 2006 | 338 | 7,924 | 2,678,300 | 34% | $95,000 | wlg.c. by Tapit |
| | | | | | | wlg.c. by Two Punch |
| 2005 | 375 | 9,328 | 3,497,900 | 32% | $140,000 | brm. Your Out (by Allen's Prospect), in foal to Lion Hearted |
| 2004 | 363 | 10,640 | 3,862,300 | 21% | $160,000 | wlg.c. by Malibu Moon |
| 2003 | 360 | 7,506 | 2,702,300 | 22% | $150,000 | wlg.f. by Malibu Moon |
| 2002 | 378 | 6,557 | 2,478,600 | 30% | $103,000 | wlg.f. by Silver Charm |
| 2001 | 448 | 7,881 | 3,530,500 | 23% | $100,000 | wlg.f. by Citidancer |
| 2000 | 566 | 7,625 | 4,315,700 | 20% | $142,000 | brm. Poised to Pounce (by Smarten), in foal to Polish Numbers |
| 1999 | 483 | 11,198 | 5,408,700 | 16% | $240,000 | wlg.c. by Boston Harbor |
| 1998 | 437 | 8,423 | 3,680,700 | 15% | $120,000 | brm. Final Deputy (by Deputy Minister), in foal to Two Punch |
| 1997 | 428 | 6,273 | 2,685,000 | 18% | $75,000 | brm. Truth and Beauty (by Private Terms), in foal to Two Punch |
| 1996 | 391 | 5,831 | 2,280,100 | 14% | $65,000 | brm. Lady Bering (by Lord Gaylord), in foal to Not For Love |

## BID DISTRIBUTION

| | final bid | no. sold | total amount |
|---|---|---|---|
| ≥ | 100,000 | 3 | $ 350,000 |
| ≥ | 75,000 | 3 | 260,000 |
| ≥ | 50,000 | 5 | 270,000 |
| ≥ | 25,000 | 33 | 1,107,000 |
| ≥ | 10,000 | 99 | 1,486,500 |
| ≥ | 5,000 | 38 | 239,500 |
| others | | 80 | 192,100 |

## LEADING WEANLING SIRES

**Gross Sales**

Divining Rod (5) . . . . . $53,500
Midshipman (2). . . . . 51,000
Vino Rosso (1). . . . . 50,000
Midnight Storm (1) . . . . . 48,000
Maximus Mischief (1) . . . . . 44,000
Cupid (1). . . . . 40,000
Unified (1). . . . . 35,000
Madefromlucky (8) . . . . . 33,200
Great Notion (3). . . . . 31,000
Arrogate (1). . . . . 30,000

## LEADING CONSIGNORS

**Gross Sales**

Northview Stallion Station, agt. (107).$1,773,100
Marshall W. Silverman, agt. (37) .....559,500
Bill Reightler, agt. (57) .....478,000
Becky Davis, agt. (21).....303,500
Greenmount Farm, agt. (7).....154,500
Gracie Bloodstock, agt. (4).....138,000
Crane Thoroughbred Services, agt. (7).126,500
Harry L. Landry Bloodstock, agt. (4)...92,500
Sally Thomas, agt. (4).....82,000
Dreamtime Stables, agt. (2).....68,000

**Average Sales (3 or more sold)**

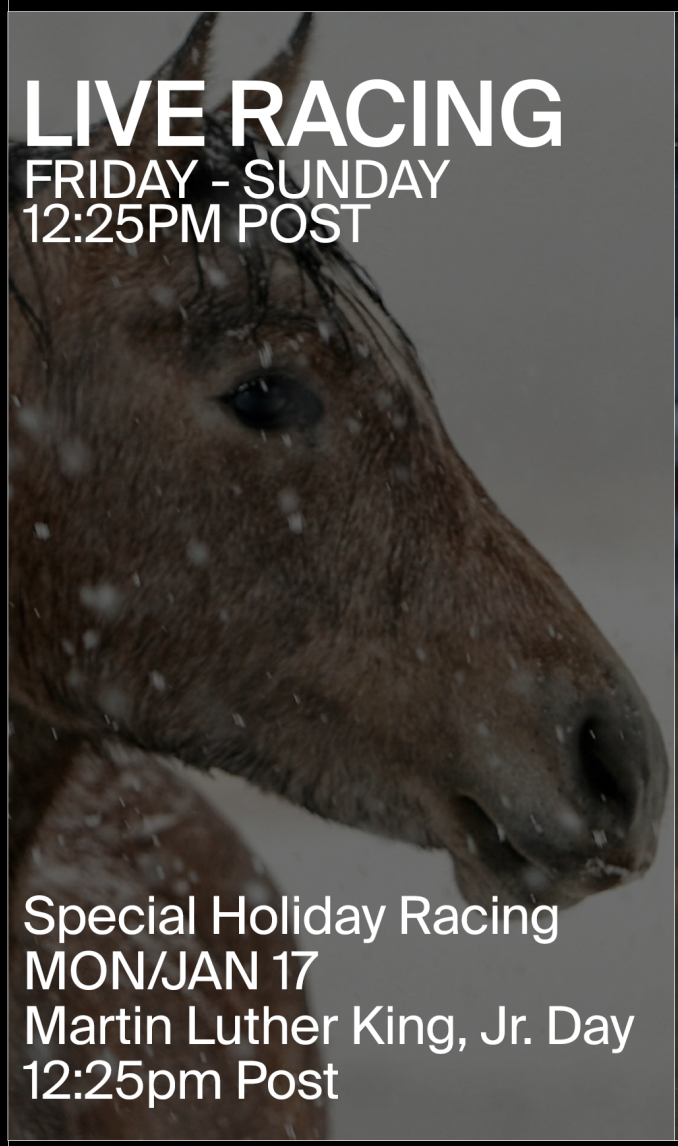
Gracie Bloodstock, agt. (4).....$34,500
Harry L. Landry Bloodstock, agt. (4)...23,125
Greenmount Farm, agt. (7).....22,071
Sally Thomas, agt. (4).....20,500
Crane Thoroughbred Services, agt. (7). 18,071
Northview Stallion Station, agt. (107) 16,571
Marshall W. Silverman, agt. (37) .....15,122
Morgan's Ford Farm (3).....14,667
Becky Davis, agt. (21).....14,452
Chanceland Farm (3).....10,000

## LEADING BUYERS

Charles J. Zacney (6).....$159,000
Thelma & Louise Stable
(Linda Rice, agt.) (1).....130,000
Stoneriggs Farm (1).....120,000
Bonita Farm, agent (3).....113,000
DKW Racing (4) .....110,000
Stable HMA (3) .....108,000
Euro Stable (1).....95,000
Jagger (6).....89,000
Sean Perl Bloodstock (1) .....85,000
Jordan Wycoff (1) .....80,000

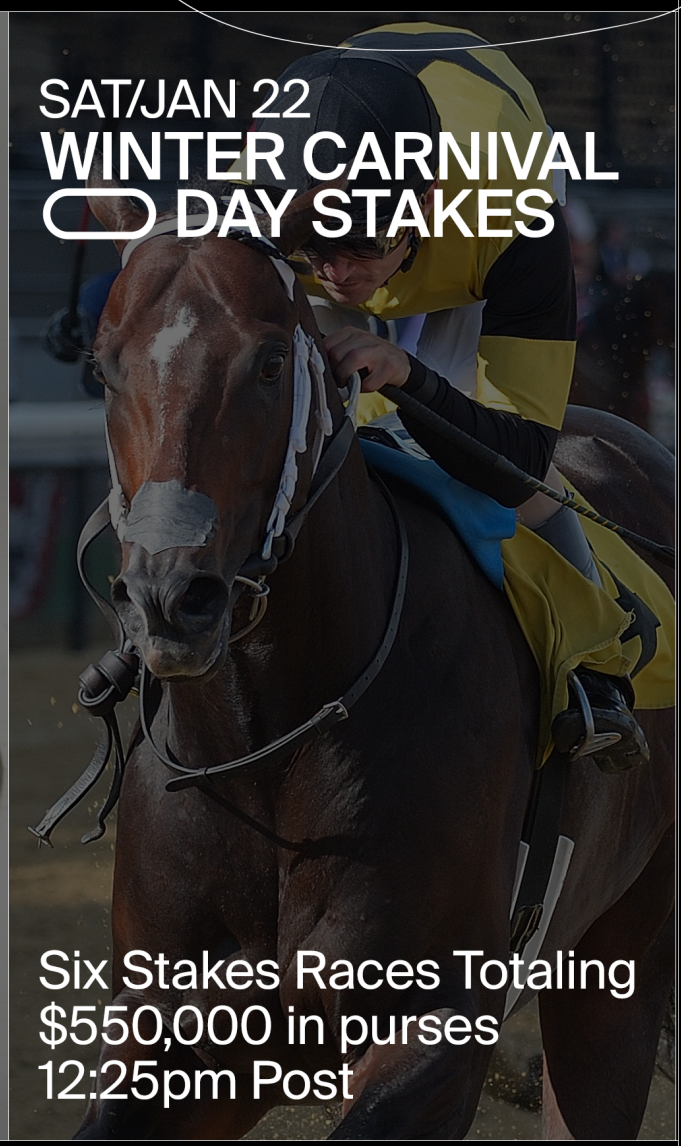
MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB
LAUREL PARK

# JANUARY EVENTS 2022



## LIVE RACING
FRIDAY - SUNDAY
12:25PM POST

Special Holiday Racing
MON/JAN 17
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
12:25pm Post



SAT/JAN 22
## WINTER CARNIVAL DAY STAKES

Six Stakes Races Totaling
$550,000 in purses
12:25pm Post

FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT: LAURELPARK.COM

**Top-priced broodmare Dad's Princess (left), in foal to Omaha Beach, went to Bonita Farm for $100,000. Most expensive weanling at $50,000 was a New York-bred Vino Rosso filly (above).**

while getting Delaware-certified as a yearling.

"She has a beautiful body, shoulder, you know she's by Lemon Drop Kid, who's not the most commercial, but I knew she was correct and pretty enough and big enough that I really thought she would make the market. To me, she just oozed what I call 'broodmare,'" said Palmer. "I'm not in the business of buying my client's horse but I think I did say something along the lines of, 'If she goes over your reserve, I might try to pick her up,' and they were fine with that."

But in the end, Lawley-Wakelin had them all beat, with a bid that Palmer felt reflected the health of the current market.

"I thought she could bring a little bit more but to me, and this is just my opinion, I didn't think there was a large volume of breeders at that sale. The market for open mares at the December sale was probably not the staunchest group of horses that one could put together," said Palmer. "I think $45,000 was fair. I don't think that was a super, super-duper price, but I think it was a fair price for the market we're in right now, which is a good market. The gentleman that bought her was very tickled and happy to have her."

When it came to the in-foal broodmares, Dad's Princess, in foal to Omaha Beach, stood above the rest. Part of Becky Davis' 24-horse consignment, where 21 sold for $303,500 (averaging $14,452), the graded stakes-placed daughter of Mineshaft went to $100,000. Bonita Farm's Bill Boniface signed the ticket.

"We like to buy younger mares in foal to fashionable horses that have the potential for an upside and of course you have a lot of depth with [her granddam] Princess Rooney," said Boniface of the Hall of Famer, champion older mare of 1984 and earner of $1.3 million. "I'm kind of old-fashioned. I look at the third generation, with Seattle Slew, Mr. Prospector, Vice Regent and Verbatim, and you can't do much more for broodmare potential than catching those particular stallions in that generation. She went for more than I thought she would, but then they usually do."

The mare's first foal, a 3-year-old daughter of Quality Road named I Am Yours, sold for $100,000 as a yearling, broke her maiden first time out in October at Fresno and finished fourth in the Golden Gate Debutante Stakes in late November. Dad's Princess also has a now 2-year-old colt by American Pharoah, Argun, who sold for $45,000 at Fasig-Tipton's 2021 Kentucky Winter mixed sale.

"She tracks well, straight and true, had enough scope, enough size, and kind of checked all the boxes," said Boniface. "She will be bred to Kobe's Back. We're trying to get some more quality mares for him."

Though Bennett acknowledged there is work to be done to improve and expand breeding stock offerings, along with drawing in more pinhookers for the weanling side, the success of the horses of racing age supplement and the growing opportunities for buyers show increasing promise for this sale.

"Somebody always has some good luck buying out of this sale, so it keeps them coming back, and people have good luck selling here, so they were back again supporting us with horses for this sale," she said.

"We're thankful for what we are able to catalogue, and I think it says a lot with the state-breds and with these new stallions coming on. Hopefully things will be way different next year, in that some of these [new] horses will have runners, and it will just create a whole different atmosphere."

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LYDIA A. WILLIAMS (3)

# State of the Stallions

## *Northview Stallion Station adds two as regional lineup heads into breeding season*

You could almost hear 21-year-old Great Notion, the dean of Maryland's Northview Stallion Station, speaking to guests and his fellow stallions at the farm's open house in December.

"Quiet down over there," he grumbled at the siblings wrestling in the grass beside the barn. "No roughhousing."

"Shhh, the man is talking about me," he mentioned to the couple discussing the soup offered in the new stallion barn across the way. "Do you know I'm the sire of Anna's Bandit?"

"You, young buck, stop fidgeting and don't worry about all this," he advised Galawi (Ire), a then 4-year-old newcomer who joins the stallion roster for 2022. "You'll figure it out. I know it's windy, I know you've been out five times already. Of course we'd all rather be in our paddocks."

"Don't get ahead of yourself there, Speedy, we were all fast," he told the sprinter Engage, another first-year stallion. "I see your hips and the power in your hind end. I know your grandpop was Speightstown. Let's see what you look like in 15 years or so. You see these long, gray whiskers? Yeah, I earned them."

**Northview's newcomers Galawi (top) and Engage (bottom left) join a roster topped by Great Notion (bottom right) for 2022.**

Northview 2.0—general manager David Wade's term—officially sprung to action with its open house Dec. 11, hosting breeders, owners, trainers, those wrestling kids and anybody else who wanted to show up for a look at the Chesapeake City farm's 10 stallions and long list of improvements. Northview built a new, small stallion barn, refurbished the historic main stallion barn, built new run-in sheds, installed new fencing, repaved most of the farm roads, planted trees along those roads and in stallion turnout paddocks, added other landscaping touches and—perhaps most telling—made a list of other targets. The breeding shed and main broodmare barn are next, a stallion show ring should be in place for next year's open house and Wade said other upgrades are coming.

The changes are all part of a plan put in motion in 2020 and further cemented with the death of Northview co-founder Richard Golden in 2021. Northview closed its Pennsylvania farm in 2020 to consolidate operations in Maryland, and named Golden's son Mike as vice president. When his father died at 82 in September, Mike Golden got a chance to get even more involved.

"Mike told me that we had the premier stallion farm in the region and that he wanted it to look like it," said Wade, who has worked at the Golden family's adjacent Sycamore Hall Farm and/or Northview since 1987. "I got the opportunity to build Sycamore Hall from scratch and now with Mike I get the opportunity to help create something else, which is really cool. Mike has the same enthusiasm his father had

when he entered the business and we're excited about the future."

The present will do too. Northview added Galawi and Engage to its roster. The former, bred by Wertheimer and Frere, boasts a pedigree that might be deeper than the Grand Canyon. His sire Dubawi (Ire) is an international standout sire of 36 champions and the winners of three races on the 2021 Breeders' Cup card. Galawi's dam Galikova (Fr) won a Group 1 in her native country, and is a half-sister to (among others) three-time Breeders' Cup Mile-G1 winner Goldikova (Ire) among others.

Galawi started just three times, placing twice as a 3-year-old in France and winning his American debut at Belmont Park last summer. That last-to-first charge in a 1¼-mile maiden had owner/breeder Wertheimer and Frere and trainer Graham Motion thinking big, until an injury in a Saratoga workout ended the bay's career. By coincidence, Golden was there that day but had already thought of the horse as a potential Northview prospect.

"Graham had said to me, 'You might want to look at this horse. I think he'd be a good stallion to consider,'" Golden said. "He went out to work after that. He's a beautiful horse who broke his maiden very, very impressively and his breeding is incredible."

Galawi may not have realized his full potential as a racehorse, but will get a chance to see it as a stallion. More success on the track might have meant Northview never got a chance to stand him, Golden said. He joins the roster at $2,000.

If Galawi represents the turf/distance/international pillars at Northview, Engage steps up for the Americans, the dirt horses and the sprinters. Built like an Olympic 100-meter man, the 7-year-old son of Into Mischief and the Speightstown mare Nefertiti won five times including a Grade 2 and a Grade 3 at 6 furlongs while earnings $802,780.

Despite not racing since April, Engage "still looks fast," according to plenty of viewers at the open house and enters stud at $5,000 live foal as the only son of national leader Into Mischief in the region.

While the new guys drew plenty of looks, Northview's existing roster stands up to any in the region. Great Notion ($7,500) led the region by 2021 stakes winners and stakes horses while third–behind Wicked Strong and the deceased Jump Start–on the Mid-Atlantic leaderboard in 2021. He doesn't see the numbers he used to, by design, but continues to expand on a reputation for improving mares and siring winners of all shape and size.

BARRIE B. REIGHTLER

**Peace and Justice stands his second season at Pennsylvania's Blackstone Farm.**

Golden Lad bred 77 mares in 2021 and rode the success of star filly Hello Beautiful and others to a spot among the region's top 10. Uncle Lino, whose first two crops included stakes winners Singlino and Golden Key, bred 67 mares in 2021 and stands for $4,000 this year. Irish War Cry and Hoppertunity get their first runners this year. Eclipticalspraline and First Mondays complete the region's largest lineup.

*– Joe Clancy*

## Peace and Justice settles in at Blackstone

It had been a decade since Blackstone Farm in Pine Grove, Pa., stood stallions. Then known as Godstone Farm, it was operated by Judy Barrett and Douglas Black, and was home to Cetewayo and Activist among others.

When Black and Barrett parted ways in 2010, Black wanted to go the commercial route and turned his focus to upgrading his broodmare band at the farm he purchased in 2006. Now one of the largest breeders in the state–with 70 to 80 broodmares–has turned out top sales horses and numerous stakes winners.

Stallions weren't part of the plan, until last year.

"We really don't stand stallions, so we did it as a favor for Steve Young [A1A Racing], who owns Peace and Justice," said Black.

Set to begin his sixth season at stud, Peace and Justice entered stud at Diamond B Farm in Mohrsville in 2017 before moving to Northview PA in Peach Bottom for the next three years. That farm's closure in the fall of 2020 forced Young to look for a new home for his son of War Front, who by that time had a juvenile stakes winner in his first crop.

"People want PA-breds," said Black, and the Pennsylvania Breeding Fund program offers more to breeders and owners when Pennsylvania-breds are sired by state stallions. The 12-year-old stallion, a fast miler from the family of leading sire Be My Guest, is the state's leading second-crop sire, with such progeny as Like a Saltshaker, who has won or placed in three stakes and has run in Grade 1 company. Peace and Justice stands for $3,500 live foal.

Black is not planning to expand the stallion business.

"One or two I can handle," he said. "In order to do stallions, to really get into the stallion business like Diamond B, I'd need a separate facility."

Blackstone's accommodations work for their stud in residence, who bred 28 mares in 2021.

"He has his own paddock. We have two large barns and he's in the top barn when he's not out in his paddock," said Black. "He loves to be out in the paddock rather than in his stall, I'll tell you that. No matter what the weather."

Originally from New Jersey, Black lives on the farm that has expanded from the original 115 acres to 350 acres.

"When I came here I was just boarding a few horses and had another partner, Ron

Fiber Sonde (top) leads the Beau Ridge roster, with young stallions Redirect (below left) and Spiritus Invictus awaiting their first runners in 2023.

KATHERINE TURNBULL (2)

Perozzi [Casino Royale Farms]—we used to race at Philadelphia Park. I just always wanted to go commercial with it and we're trying to raise the level of Pennsylvania mares in the state so we can get a good stallion in here."

## Fiber Sonde still the boss at Beau Ridge

Fiber Sonde, the leading sire in West Virginia and top five in the region, is carefully managed by John and Cyndy McKee. The 17-year-old got the majority of the 28 mares, most owned by the McKees, he bred in 2021 in foal.

"Hopefully we'll do the same thing this year," said Cyndy, who noted that his book is "basically closed" although they continue to get calls. "We're just breeding our own mares to him. I can't promise anybody that I'll get their mares in foal."

The gray son of Unbridled's Song makes the most of limited opportunities.

"Obviously we want as many of his foals as we could, but he can only do what he can do," said Cyndy. "They [the fertility experts] say one mare a day. He has plenty of sperm and plenty of desire. His problem is his sperm don't live very long. You have to get the mares real close to ovulation. We're doing everything to help him. But you can only do so much. It's a lot of palpation, a lot of checking. If there are three mares there in one day, he only gets bred to the one that's the closest to ovulating."

While Fiber Sonde sees most of the Beau Ridge mares, young stallions Redirect and Spiritus Invictus are also supported by their owners. Their first foals are yearlings of 2022.

"When they hit the ground I really liked both stallions' babies," said Cyndy. "I can't look at a baby and tell you I know it's going to run, but they are well put-together and proportioned. Good solid babies."

Redirect, a son of Speightstown and the stakes-winning Seattle Slew mare Alternate and a half-brother to three stakes winners including Grade 1-winning millionaire Higher Power and graded stakes-winning millionaire Alternation, had gotten a few outside mares for his second breeding season. War Front's son Spiritus Invictus, out of Grade 1 winner Centre Court (by Smart Strike) and called Spirit by McKee, was mostly supported by the McKees.

"Until they get runners—that's just the way it is here—outside people really aren't going to breed to them," she said. "We have another whole year to wait to see them run."

As for the big horse, Fiber Sonde moved back into the stallion barn in December.

"He gets turned out when breeding season is over—he gets the foaling barn," said McKee. "One big foaling stall out there that opens up to a small paddock. That's where he stays all summer and into the fall. He can just be outside when he's at the foaling barn. He has a big double stall that he can use as a run-in shed and he can come and go as he pleases. He likes it there.


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**Pellinor Lane Farm added Bullsbay (left) in 2020 and Talent Search for 2022.**

"When it gets too cold, if I have to lock him up I might as well do it down here at the stallion barn."

And whatever happened to the unlikely friendship that grew between the big gray stallion and orphaned calf Hank?

"Hank is off doing bull duty. He's out on his own," said McKee. "He's grown up so he's not Fiber Sonde's pet anymore."

*– Cindy Deubler*

## Pellinor Lane Farm adds Talent Search

Want to get Ronney Brown energized? Ask the longtime breeder and owner, and one of Charles Town's top trainers, what opportunities exist for state-breds at the track and he'll extol the virtues of the various programs. And he wants to bring along as many people as he can.

"I like to sell half of every horse I have," he said of his racing stable, before explaining the eight conditions horses can race for at Charles Town and the money they can earn. And he believes he has the right stallions to continue to build a successful base.

The newest arrival to Pellinor Lane Farm, operated by Brown and his wife Nicole in Charles Town, is Talent Search, who moves from Pennsylvania. Runners by the 19-year-old stallion include 2021 graded stakes-winning sprinter Hollywood Talent. The son of Catienus will stand for $1,500, with special consideration for West Virginia mares.

Breeders immediately took notice, as Brown began fielding calls and sending contracts as soon as the news broke of Talent Search's arrival.

With 2021 progeny earnings in excess of $1.2 million, Talent Search ranks third on the West Virginia earnings list for the year, behind only Fiber Sonde and the late Windsor Castle.

"He's a good fit for this place," said Brown, who liked the chestnut stallion's offspring since his first foals hit the auction ring. The stallion offers a proven stud record, which is also a draw.

Bringing in an established stallion has worked well for Brown – Bullsbay joined the roster in 2020 (after standing in Maryland and Pennsylvania) and went from covering four mares in 2019 to 30 in 2020. The number grew to 43 in 2021, the second biggest book in the state. Bullsbay, a Grade 1-winning son of Tiznow out of a Lord Carson mare, offers a different kind of pedigree compared to many new arrivals, and in Brown's view is a great option after the state lost Windsor Castle (a son of Lord Carson) and Charitable Man in recent years.

"He has some of the nicest foals," said Brown. "They have good conformation, are well-built and easy to work with."

*– Cindy Deubler*

## Riding it out in the region

Sean Feld manages six stallions in four states under the Climax Stallions banner and knows full well the ups and downs of regional markets the last few years.

"The regional markets got crushed last year. Like, big-time crushed," Feld said. "Maybe it was a little delayed reaction to the Covid stuff. A lot of people decided that if they were going to do the regional stuff they would spend the extra money to send (mares) to Kentucky. I'm hoping it kind of boomerangs back, because if it doesn't boomerang back then regional markets are going to be more or less toast."

Breeding numbers dropped in the two largest states in the region – Maryland and Pennsylvania – according to statistics from The Jockey Club. Maryland's active stallion numbers went from 29 to 25 in 2021. Pennsylvania went from 37 stallions in 2020 to 29 last year. Both states saw declines in mares bred from 2020 to 2021 (3.5 percent in Maryland; 28.6 percent in Pennsylvania).

While it's not necessarily a complete listing, December's MAT stallion directory for 2022, with paid pedigree pages for stallions, went 27 deep in Maryland and to 19 in Pennsylvania. The latter will persevere without Diamond B Farm as owners Glenn and Becky Brok announced their retirement.

Despite the declines, Feld and other players in the Mid-Atlantic stallion market are banking on and optimistic for a solid breeding season in 2022.

"It's kind of a broken record, and now that I'm more involved in stuff, the thing I hear the most is 'the lack of sire power,' " Feld said. "But then you bring a horse like Mr. Monomoy to New York and he only gets 19 mares. You can't complain there's a lack of sire power and someone brings one that's a legit horse – a graded stakes winner and half-brother to a champion – and he's not supported."

Climax added two stallions to the roster at Louis and Grace Merryman's Anchor and Hope Farm in Port Deposit, Md., who fit a similar profile to Mr. Monomoy and others in recent years – full- or half-brothers to major winners or leading sires.

Newcomer Fortune Ticket, a full-brother to record-breaking freshman sire Gun Runner; and Editorial, a half-brother to leading sire Uncle Mo, add to the Anchor and Hope roster that includes Bourbon Courage, Holy Boss, Imagining and Long River.

DUSTIN ORONA PHOTOGRAPHY/REMINGTON PARK

**Fortune Ticket (above), a full-brother to Gun Runner, joins fellow Climax Stallion, 2021 freshman sire Editorial (below), at Anchor and Hope in Port Deposit, Md.**

A son of Candy Ride (Arg) and the Giant's Causeway mare Quiet Giant, Fortune Ticket stands for $2,500.

"With all the buzz around Gun Runner, we're happy to have his full-brother," Grace Merryman said.

North America's leading freshman sire in 2021, Gun Runner broke the record for first-crop earnings with more than $4 million as of Dec. 20. He sired 2021 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies-G1 winner and likely champion Echo Zulu, Hopeful Stakes-G1 winner Gunite and Adirondack Stakes-G2 winner Wicked Halo.

Feld and his partners bought Fortune Ticket as a racing prospect for $27,000 at the 2020 Keeneland November breeding stock sale, initially with hopes to race the colt, land some black type and find a place for him to stand. He started in early January 2021—finishing a well-beaten ninth in allowance company at Santa Anita Park—before an injury preparing for a start at Turf Paradise ended his career.

"Considering the timing of it, we were going to give him the time, thinking if Gun Runner was a flop we were going to put him back in training. And if he wasn't a flop, then we'd retire him and stand him at stud," Feld said. "Obviously, Gun Runner is anything but a flop. We got pretty lucky with that.

"We had a farm in California reach out that seemed interesting until we looked up how many sons of Candy Ride and sons of sons of Candy Ride were out there. He would have got his fair share of mares, but you try to place them where there's not going to be too much competition. Once we decided we wanted to be in a spot without too much competition, we looked up where sons of Candy Ride were lacking."

Other than West Virginia's Candygram, who stands for private contract, the Mid-Atlantic fit that description.

Fortune Ticket is from the high-powered family developed by Edward P. Evans. Dam Quiet Giant, a graded stakes winner of $405,389, is a half-sister to Horse of the Year and Breeders' Cup Classic-G1 winner Saint Liam, United Nations-G1 winner Funtastic, and four other stakes performers.

"He's a very good-looking horse," said Feld. "He's very Candy Ride—not imposing, but a perfect size, 16.1 hands. Correct and very athletic. We really thought he could be a stakes horse but it just didn't work out."

Editorial stands his second year at Anchor & Hope in 2022. Priced at $2,500,


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JIM MCCUE

**Local Motive, here winning the $100,000 James F. Lewis III Stakes in November, is the top earner for leading Mid-Atlantic freshman sire Divining Rod, who stands at Country Life Farm**

the son of War Front sired two winners from four starters in his first crop. Both became stakes-placed as 2-year-olds: My Thoughts, second in the Maryland Million Lassie, and Alottahope, second in the Dec. 18 Maryland Juvenile Championship.

"He got stuck in Peru during the pandemic and missed a year," Merryman said. "His first season with us was 2021. He was well-received and he has had success with limited opportunities."

Feld hopes the Climax stallions can duplicate, or come close to duplicating, the regional success of the lightly raced Malibu Moon (who turned two lifetime starts into an enviable career at stud).

"Our new tagline for our company is 'We bring Kentucky to you,'" Feld added. "Editorial is showing he can throw runners and Fortune Ticket's pedigree is about as good as you can get. So we're pretty excited.

Bourbon Courage, entering his seventh season, headlines the Anchor and Hope roster, with his progeny earning more than $1.7 million in 2021. He stands for $2,500.

"As much as you can guarantee anything in this industry, he's pretty much a sure bet," Merryman said. "You know what you're going to get. They have heart, determination and brains. He has had a debut maiden special weight winner at Keeneland and stakes winners in California and at Saratoga. He passes on the grit to his kids."

Merryman also said the trio of Holy Boss, Long River and Imagining give the farm cause for optimism heading into the 2022 season.

Holy Boss produced six first-crop winners from 18 starters in 2021, including Sparkle Sprinkle, third in the Maryland Million Lassie. The son of Street Boss covered 65 mares in 2021, before any of his offspring had even run.

"We are really excited for his foals to run," Merryman said.

The sleeper of the group could be Long River, the first foal out of 2006 Breeders' Cup Distaff-G1 winner Round Pond. By A.P. Indy, Long River's first runners hit the track in 2022. He had eight yearlings sell for an average of $23,500 at the 2021 Fasig-Tipton Mid-Atlantic fall yearling sale.

"We got great feedback," Merryman said. "A lot of our eggs are in the Long River basket. Any mares that we breed to him ourselves, we are keeping the foals."

Imagining, who stands for $2,500, has has three crops to race and his offspring won 29 races in 2021, earning more than $1.3 million.

"He complements a large number of mares," Merryman said. "There are a lot of ways you can go with him."

*– Tom Law, Paul Halloran, Cindy Deubler*

## Optimism at Country Life

Maryland's oldest Thoroughbred breeding operation, Country Life in Bel Air, is in the capable hands of third-generation owners Mike and Josh Pons, who hope their combined five children will carry on the legacy started by Adolph Pons in 1933. Cigar was born at Country Life in 1990 and Malibu Moon stood there from 2000-03.

With the last two leading first-crop sires in the Mid-Atlantic in the barn, there is cause for optimism.

Mike Pons said the quality of mares coming to stallions in the region has improved in the last 15 years and attributes that to increased purses and bonuses for breeders and owners.

"The breeder awards are at record levels," he said. "You can bring home real money. It makes you very optimistic. We're going to have to race more homebreds."

Divining Rod, who stands for $5,000 and had 16 first-crop winners with more than $820,000 in earnings in 2021, leads the roster. Half of those winners won on debut.

"And that was despite Laurel being closed four months and training disrupted," Mike Pons said. "He's a new sire with a bright future."

Local Motive is the early leader of Divining Rod's progeny, with more than $164,000, a stakes win and stakes placing.

Mosler, by War Front out of the Arch mare Gold Vault, stands for $4,000 and was the leading freshman sire in the Mid-Atlantic in 2020 with 10 winners. He backed that up with 35 winners in 2021, making him the leading second-crop sire in the region.

"Mosler broke his maiden and won two allowance races at a mile or longer," Pons said, "then he won two stakes sprinting on the grass. I think (his offspring) can go either way."

Friesan Fire, who stands for $2,500, has produced top runners such as Pennsylvania-breds Army Mule, who won all three of his starts including the Carter Handicap-G1; and Call Paul, who captured the Saratoga Special-G2 and was multiple stakes-placed; and Maryland-bred Fiya, a $400,000 Wanamaker Sale graduate whose speed on turf helped him to a 6-for-9 mark before suffering a fatal training injury in 2021.

"Friesan Fire has gotten some good horses," Pons said of the son of A.P. Indy whose progeny have won 61 races and earned more than $2.7 million combined the last two years and whose 2-year-olds have sold for as much as $825,000.

Super Ninety Nine, a son of Pulpit out of an Unbridled's Song mare, rounds out the Country Life stallion roster and stands for $2,000.

*– Paul Halloran*

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**Wicked Strong flexes his muscles at Pin Oak Lane Farm.**

## Going 'Strong' at Pin Oak Lane

Wicked Strong came to Dr. Bill Solomon's Pin Oak Lane Farm in New Freedom, Pa., in 2021 from Spendthrift Farm in Kentucky. Solomon hoped he'd follow the likes of Any Given Saturday, Offlee Wild, Albert the Great, Rockport Harbor, Deposit Ticket and Corinthian, who achieved success after relocating to Pennsylvania from Kentucky.

Wicked Strong did just that, breeding 45 mares and finishing atop the state and regional general sire list in 2021. He sired a region-topping 83 winners and the earners of $3,845,822 (through Dec. 20), edging out the late Jump Start ($3,746,211) and Maryland's Great Notion ($3,563,146).

"He gets a lot of winners," said Solomon, a veterinarian who started Pin Oak Lane in 1973. "He's a good-looking horse and he produces nice individuals."

That includes Brooklyn Strong, winner of the 2020 Remsen Stakes-G2 and a starter in the 2021 Kentucky Derby-G1.

A top-10 freshman sire in North America in 2019, Wicked Strong stands for $3,500. Solomon has long-standing relationships with several Kentucky farms, and he worked out a lease arrangement with Spendthrift stallion sales manager Mark Toothaker to bring the son of Hard Spun to Pennsylvania.

Pin Oak Lane's other stallion, Lord Shanakill, bred 15 mares in 2021. By Speightstown, Lord Shanakill stands for $2,500 and was a Group 1-winning sprinter in Europe and won five races from 2008-10. Solomon acquired him in 2015 through a connection with John Osborne, a fellow veterinarian and chief executive officer of the Irish National Stud at the time.

"He probably deserves to be more popular than he is," Solomon said of Lord Shanakill, who has produced multiple group winners in Europe, including My Dream Boat, who won the Group 1 Prince of Wales at Royal Ascot in 2016.

*– Paul Halloran*


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## STALLION NOTES

### Golden Years gets first stakes winner

The juvenile gelding Jungle Beast lived up to the hype as he scored by 4¼ lengths as the 3-10 favorite over nine others in the West Virginia Futurity Nov. 27 at Charles Town. Owned and bred by O'Sullivan Farms out of the Jump Start mare Jungle Diamond and trained by Javier Contreras, Jungle Beast is one of seven winners from 12 foals in Golden Years' first two crops, and his sire's first stakes winner.

Golden Years became the first O'Sullivan homebred to stand at the historic Charles Town farm when he was retired in 2017. A $120,000 sales yearling, the West Virginia-bred colt won three of five starts, including the Maryland Million Nursery and Marylander Stakes at Laurel and was third in his only start at 3, Laurel's Miracle Wood in February, from which he exited with a knee injury. He earned $156,760.

The 10-year-old son of Not For Love and stakes winner Sweet Annuity, a half-sister to West Virginia-bred star Russell Road, stands for $1,500 live foal, with special consideration for multiple bookings.

### Moved in the Region

**Well Spelled** will stand the 2022 season at Mountain Springs Farm in Palmyra, Pa. The now 13-year-old graded stakes-winning sprinter by Spellbinder owned by Godstone Farm and Frank Vento's Vento Equine, is the sire of stakes winners Hockey Puck and Well Graced. He entered stud in 2015 at Judy Barrett's Godstone Farm in Littlestown, where he stood through last year. Well Spelled has sired the earners of more than $1.3 million, with 22 winners from 32 starters, in his first four crops.

### Left the Region

**Poseidon's Warrior**, who stood the past two seasons at Rodney Eckenrode's Equistar Farm in Annville, Pa., has relocated to Century Acres in Hempstead, Texas. The Grade 1-winning sprinter is the sire of $2.7-million Grade 1 winner Firenze Fire. His first Pennsylvania-sired foals are yearlings.

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# STAKES WINNERS

BENOIT PHOTO

**Field Pass (#2) travelled to the West coast and held off his New York rival Sacred Life (Fr) to win the Grade 2 Seabiscuit at Del Mar in November.**

Complete statistics on 2021 Mid-Atlantic-bred stakes winners available at MidAtlanticTB.com, including interactive pedigrees, race records, produce records of dam and more.

## Maryland-bred

**CORDMAKER**, ch.g., 2015, Curlin—Tanca, by Polish Numbers. Bred by Robert T. Manfuso & Katharine M. Voss; owned by Hillwood Stable LLC; trained by Rodney Jenkins. $100,000 **Harrison E. Johnson Memorial S**, 1⅛ mi., 4&up, Laurel, March 13; $100,000 **Victory Gallop S**, 1 1/16 mi., 3&up, Colonial, Aug. 23; $100,000 **Richard W. Small S**, 1⅛ mi., 3&up, Laurel, Nov. 27; 3rd **John B. Campbell S**, **Deputed Testamony S**, **Jennings S**.

**FIELD PASS**, gr./ro.c., 2017, Lemon Drop Kid—Only Me, by Runaway Groom. Bred by Mark Brown Grier; owned by Three Diamonds Farm; trained by Michael J. Maker. $200,000 **Baltimore/Washington International Turf Cup S-G3**, 1 mi., turf, 3&up, Pimlico, July 24; $250,000 **Seabiscuit H-G2**, 1 1/16 mi., turf, 3&up, Del Mar, Nov. 27; 2nd **Knickerbocker S-G3**.

**LOCAL MOTIVE**, b.g., 2019, Divining Rod—Wild for Love, by Not For Love. Bred by Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC, Greenspring Mares LLC & Bowman & Higgins Stable; owned by Bird Mobberley LLC; trained by John E. Salzman Jr. $100,000 **Hickory Tree S**, 5 fur., turf, registered VA-bred/sired or VA certified 2YO, Colonial, Aug. 2; $100,000 **James F. Lewis III S**, 6 fur., 2YO, Laurel, Nov. 13; 3rd **Maryland Million Nursery S**.

**PRINCESS KOKACHIN**, dk.b./br.f., 2018, Graydar—Serenity Hill, by Speightstown. Bred by Nancy M. Rizer & Eric A. Rizer; owned by Eric A. Rizer; trained by John J. Robb. $75,000 **Politely S**, 6 fur., registered MD-bred or sired F&M, 3&up, Laurel, Nov. 26.

**WHERESHETOLDMETOGO**, ch.g., 2015, El Padrino—Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute. Bred by David H. Wade; owned by Madaket Stables LLC, Ten Strike Racing, Michael E. Kisber & BTR Racing Inc.; trained by Brittany Russell. $75,000 **Not For Love S**, 6 fur., registered MD-bred or sired, 4&up, Laurel, March 13; $50,000 **Alapocas Run S**, 6 fur., 3&up, Delaware, July 3; $100,000 **New Castle S**, 6 fur., Del.-bred or certified, 3&up, Delaware, Sept. 25; $75,000 **Howard and Sondra Bender Memorial S**, 7 fur., registered MD-bred or sired, 3&up, Laurel, Nov. 26; 3rd **Challedon S**.

## New Jersey-bred

**PICKIN' TIME**, dk.b./br.c., 2018, Stay Thirsty—Born to Royalty, by King of Kings (Ire). Bred by John Bowers Jr.; owned by Roseland Farm Stable (Bowers); trained by Kelly J. Breen. $100,000 **New Jersey Breeders H**, 6 fur., registered NJ-breds, 3&up, Monmouth, Aug. 29; $100,000 **City of Laurel S**, 7 fur., 3YO, Laurel, Nov. 27; 2nd **Gallant Bob S-G2**.

## Pennsylvania-bred

**DISCO EBO**, b.f., 2019, Weigelia—Katarica Disco, by Disco Rico. Bred by St. Omers Farm; owned by Cash is King LLC and LC Racing LLC; trained by Robert E. Reid Jr. $200,000 **Shamrock Rose S**, 6 fur., registered PA-bred 2YO fillies, Penn National, Nov. 26.

**WITTY**, gr./ro.g., 2019, Great Notion—Zeezee Zoomzoom, by Congrats. Bred & owned by Elizabeth M. Merryman; trained by McLane Hendriks. $200,000 **Pennsylvania Nursery S**, 7 fur., registered PA-bred 2YO, Parx, Dec. 7.

## West Virginia-bred

**JUNGLE BEAST**, b.g., 2019, Golden Years—Jungle Diamond, by Jump Start. Bred & owned by O'Sullivan Farms LLC; trained by Javier Contreras. $75,000 **West Virginia Futurity**, 7 fur., registered accredited WV-bred 2YO, Charles Town, Nov. 27.

**STAR OF NIGHT**, gr./ro.f., 2017, Creative Cause—Splendiferous Moon, by Malibu Moon. Bred by Heinz J. Steinmann; owned by Huntertown Farm LLC; trained by Jeff C. Runco. $75,000 **Sadie Hawkins S**, 7 fur., registered accredited WV-bred F&M, 3&up, Charles Town, Aug. 27; $175,000 **WV "Cavada" Breeders Classic S**, 7 fur., registered accredited WV-bred or sired F&M, 3&up, Charles Town, Oct. 9; $75,000 **My Sister Pearl S**, 1⅛ mi., registered accredited WV-bred F&M, 3&up, Charles Town, Nov. 13.

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**$200,000** Alphabet Soup H. winner **YOU MUST CHILL** ($271,922) won the 1 1/16 miles by 1 1/2 lengths, defeating multiple stakes winners **WAIT FOR IT** ($683,733), **SOMEDAY JONES** ($759,520), SW **SARATOGA JACK** ($375,392), etc. **YOU MUST CHILL** ($271,922) has won or placed in 13 of 2 career starts and earned ***4 Triple Digit Speed Figures***!

*From limited opportunity*, 14 starters – 11 winners, **79% winners/starters**, including **WORD ON A WING** ($168,222) won/placed at 2, 3, 4 and 5, including a 16 ½ length maiden special weight win and in 2020 back-to-back allowance wins. **ATLANTIC CHILL** ($72,713) won back-to-back races at Penn National in 2021; Allowance winner **VENTRILOQUISM** ($62,016); 8-length Penn National winner **WINNING KNOCKOUT** ($55,024), etc.

**WINCHILL** won/placed in four stakes at 8.5 furlongs, won First Responder S. over **Norman Asbjornson**, **Ponzi Scheme**, etc., career best **116 speed figure** when 2nd Roanoke S., 2nd Crowd Pleaser S. and 3rd Roanoke S.

**G2**-placed 1st dam **Exclusive Hold**, by **PHONE TRICK**, dam of 6 winners

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# Sweet Music

## Maryland-bred Life's Illusion paved way for The Mean Queen's steeplechase title

BY JOE CLANCY

Barring voter fraud or some other unnatural disaster, The Mean Queen (Ire) will make a little history next month when she receives the Eclipse Award as the champion steeplechaser of 2021. She won three of the five Grade 1 stakes on the calendar, led the earnings list with $303,000 and won both meetings with chief championship rival Snap Decision.

And one more thing . . . she will be just the second filly or mare to claim a steeplechase Eclipse. The achievement requires a look back at trail-blazing Maryland-bred Life's Illusion, who wore the crown in 1975.

Owned by Virginia Guest, trained by Paul Fout and ridden by Al Quanbeck, Life's Illusion started a dozen times that season – twice on the flat and 10 times over jumps – from March through November. The 4-year-old filly won seven, including two major stakes at Saratoga three weeks apart, while racing against males every time. By today's standards, her $47,180 in earnings look paltry but American steeplechasing's total purses reached just $741,295 in 1975 while the 2021 total topped $4 million.

Named for lyrics in the Joni Mitchell song "Both Sides Now," Life's Illusion only looked at one side – hers.

BOB COGLIANESE

**Life's Illusion flies to victory in the 1975 New York Turf Writers Handicap with Al Quanbeck aboard.**

"I was just in awe, total awe," said Guest, now Virginia Valentine, in December. "I don't think it sunk in until it was all over. I was very lucky to have her. She was amazing. She did it all."

Guest's father, Raymond Guest, owned and bred standout Thoroughbreds under his stable name Powhatan. Stars included *L'Escargot, an international standout who won the Cheltenham Gold Cup twice and the English Grand National in addition to an American steeplechase championship in 1969. Guest was champion flat owner in Britain in 1968 and campaigned the likes of Epsom Derby winners Sir Ivor and Larkspur, and Preakness winner Tom Rolfe.

Raymond Guest gets credit for Life's Illusion, too, as he gave his daughter the broodmare *Dark Mile in 1968. In foal to Seminole II, the Irish-bred delivered a filly the next year. Named Tarratine and turned over to Fout, she won over jumps in 1973 and would win twice (and finish second in the 1974 Colonial Cup). *Dark Mile was just getting started as her 1971 foal–a filly by *Mystic II–outdid Tarratine and everyone else. Life's Illusion was in a hurry from the beginning.

"Paul sent the mare to Maryland when he thought she looked like she might be getting close to foaling," said Valentine of *Dark Mile. "He told the driver to make sure he got over the bridge before she foaled."

*Dark Mile waited long enough to foal at Merryland Farm in Baltimore County, returned to Virginia with Life's Illusion who eventually went to Fout for early work. While on a break at her owner's farm, Life's Illusion nearly changed hands–and history.

"I almost traded her to Alfred Hunt for a hunter," Valentine said of her fellow steeplechase owner. "She came back to my place in Front Royal after she was broken and things. Paul said to just walk her in the paddock and do things like that with her. Well, she walked on her hind legs all the way around. Alfred had a wonderful hunter called George, who was the worst mover but quite comfortable and very reliable. I figured I might as well."

Fout's response to the news was pretty simple.

"Are you crazy?" the trainer asked. Valentine didn't make the deal.

Life's Illusion didn't start as a 2-year-old and was pointed to a jump career due to her pedigree. *Mystic II, sire of 1972 champion steeplechaser Soothsayer among others, was a sought-after steeplechase sire. *Dark Mile ran over jumps in Ireland and had already produced a jump winner. Fifty years ago, young horses found a quick on-ramp to jump racing with races at short distances and sometimes restricted to 3- and 4-year-olds.

Life's Illusion made her debut at Saratoga in August, finishing fourth at 1⅝ miles, and placed second twice in September going 1¾ and 1⅞ miles. She won a flat race at Rolling Rock in October, and closed her rookie season with a win in the $5,000 Governor's Handicap for 3-year-olds at the Colonial Cup in November. Quanbeck, who broke his collarbone three weeks earlier, wasn't missing the mount.

"Everybody was ready to get those 3-year-olds going the first of August back then," he said. "Some of these 3-year-olds were pretty quality horses. They could win allowance races at the tracks, so you couldn't just sit back and get a feel for their jumping, you had to let them run and jump. We were running and you could tell she was good."

She'd prove it the next year.

Sixth to start the season at Aiken March 22, she sharpened up with a flat win at the Carolina Cup a week later. Three weeks after that, she dominated a $10,000 open handicap at Tanglewood by 12 lengths. Life's Illusion stayed busy and finished second at Warrenton May 3, then put together a stylish win over five more experienced rivals at Radnor May 17. Life's Illusion went to Monmouth Park for the Midsummer Hurdle Handicap, a key stakes on the summer calendar, in June and was pulled up when her saddle slipped. Fout won the race with Chrisaway, while Tarratine finished fifth.

The Midsummer behind her, Life's Illusion went to Saratoga and shined like the neon signs on Caroline Street–wiring a solid field in the 2 1/16-mile Lovely Night Aug. 1. She defeated 1974 champion *Gran Kan, Chrisaway and other quality foes. Three weeks later, she was even better–stretching to 2⅜ miles and defeating Soothsayer, plus Arctic Joe and *Gran Kan again–in the New York Turf Writers Cup. Both victories set course records. Fout, Valentine and Quanbeck accepted the trophy from the *Daily Racing Form*'s Teddy Cox and Herb Goldstein.

"She put in quite a jumping performance in that Lovely Night that year," Quanbeck said. "She was something. Doing it as a 4-year-old filly made it that much more special. I don't think that will be done again. You just don't see it. People are more patient, which probably isn't wrong. I think horses were a little tougher then too, and they had more races to run 3-year-olds in."

Life's Illusion tried to stretch her speed another furlong in the 2½-mile Grand National at Fair Hill in September, but finished sixth as Augustus Bay rolled to victory over *Gran Kan, Happy Intellectual and Soothsayer. Life's Illusion rebounded to win a 19-horse flat race going 7 furlongs at Rolling Rock, then added the Samuel K. Martin at Far Hills over future champion Cafe Prince. November's 2¾-mile Colonial Cup capped the season for stakes horses and lured 18 starters including 1974 winner Augustus Bay, 1972 winner Soothsayer, Irish raider Captain Christy, *Gran Kan and future champion Straight and True. Tested by the distance, Life's Illusion finished eighth as Cafe Prince stormed to his first of two victories in the race.

Eclipse voters awarded Life's Illusion's year-long excellence and her overall earnings lead–sending the team to New York's Waldorf Astoria for the awards ceremony. Valentine remembers giving a speech, and some coaching from Fout's wife Eve.

"It was very, very exciting," Valentine said. "You get up there and you talk too much because you're so proud of your horse. Then you look at Eve and she tells you to sit down, so we sat down. It was an amazing night."

The roster of American steeplechase champions goes back to 1936, and included zero fillies/mares until 1975. And Life's Illusion stood alone until Buttonwood Farm's The Mean Queen came along. The 2021 champion started the year as a maiden in Ireland, graduating at Wexford in April, shipping to the U.S., adding an allowance win over males in May and a filly/mare stakes in June, and closing with Grade 1 wins in the Jonathan Sheppard (the Turf Writers renamed), Lonesome Glory and American Grand National. The only blemish came when she turned a win into a loss by ducking in, and out, in deep stretch of a Saratoga novice stakes and sent jockey Tom Garner to the turf.

Early in the season, trainer Keri Brion called The Mean Queen "different gravy,"

JACK DEWELL

**Life's Illusion, with Jerry Fishback in the irons, finished second in Fair Hill's National Steeplechase, her first start in 1976 where she gave 10 to 20 pounds to her rivals.**

based on ability and personality. The same could have been said about Life's Illusion.

"I used to ride in the back of the van with her and I'd sleep on a bale of straw or a hammock because Dad wanted me to ship around with her," said Fout's son Doug, now a trainer. "We always had to get two horses to work with her because she'd work the first horse half to death. We'd work a mile or seven-eighths, and we'd have a second horse waiting at the three-eighths pole to take over and push her."

Doug Fout (then a teenager) only rode Life's Illusion six times in races—a win, a fourth, a seventh behind the great Grand Canyon (NZ) in the 1976 Colonial Cup, a fall and two pull-ups due to broken saddles.

"I galloped her and worked her," he said. "She was like a freight train. If I knew what I know now, I would have done things differently and been able to get her to relax a little bit. I didn't know enough. I think she could have beaten Grand Canyon in the Colonial Cup. She was really good, she was just hauling my guts out. I could never get her to relax and turn off in a race."

Quanbeck managed to rein her in a bit more during the races, but still called every ride an adventure and credited longtime Fout assistant Gene Leach with some morning expertise.

"She wasn't that easy to gallop in the morning," Quanbeck said. "I give Gene a lot of credit for galloping her. He was as brilliant a gallop person as I've ever seen. He could take a horse one rider would be swinging off and lock his hands down on the withers and have that horse going around with the reins dangling."

Routinely wowed by Life's Illusion's power, Quanbeck credited Paul Fout's horse-show background too.

"Paul was good at it, and he was good about teaching riders to jump well and things," Quanbeck said. "That helped me. You kind of had to have your wits about you on her. There were a couple times I might have asked her to leave the ground a little bit early, but she got me out of them. I was pretty young for that deal and I was pretty lucky to be able to handle her."

Off the championship season, Life's Illusion returned without her jockey—who took a job with leading trainer Jonathan Sheppard for 1976. Talking horses with Quanbeck one day, the future Hall of Famer said that Life's Illusion was the best 2-miler he'd ever seen. But she lost her first four starts of 1976, two over jumps and two on the flat, before winning a Delaware Park handicap hurdle while shouldering 156 pounds including Doug Fout. Favored despite a 160-pound impost in the Indian River three weeks later, she fell at the fourth fence and suffered a knee injury that would plague her the rest of her career. Assigned 160 in defense of her Turf Writers title at Saratoga in August, she finished second—beaten three-quarters of a length while conceding eight pounds to Happy Intellectual. In the Grand National at Fair Hill in September, she carried 161 and finished third behind Straight and True (154) and Happy Intellectual (157). Ten days later, she lugged 160 to victory—while conceding 21 to the runner-up—in Monmouth's Midsummer (run in late summer). Tom Skiffington was aboard for those three, but rode Tan Jay in the season-ending Colonial Cup. They finished sixth, one spot ahead of Life's Illusion and Doug Fout.

In 1977, Life's Illusion reunited with Quanbeck and put on a show. They won a Belmont handicap with ease over Powhatan's *Casamayor while carrying 157 pounds. Assigned 160, for the sixth time, she won the Lovely Night in similar fashion—downing *Casamayor, Happy Intellectual, Cafe Prince and *Bel Iman.

"For 2 miles, she was brilliant," Quanbeck said of the mare's running style. "She could stand back and jump from anywhere and sometimes she did. She was a little headstrong and you kind of had to let her do her thing for her to be as good as she could be. You could rate her for a while, but it wasn't a long while."

Saratoga fans made her the 6-5 favorite, despite 163 pounds, to repeat the effort in the Turf Writers, but Life's Illusion faded to seventh as Happy Intellectual won the race for the second of three times. And that was that. Life's Illusion never ran again. She won 13 of 34 starts, earned $96,828, won that Eclipse Award and claimed three Maryland-bred steeplechase titles. As a broodmare, she never quite produced herself though four of her six foals to race won. Great-grandson Hidden Key won the National Steeplechase Association's 3-year-old title in 2003.

"She wasn't very friendly, just cool, calm and collected at all times," said Valentine of her stable star's personality. "If she didn't like something, she let you know. She wasn't vicious, she just couldn't be bothered. There was no, at least for me, going to the stall and patting her and talking to her like there was with Tarratine. That didn't interest Life's Illusion one little bit. She was business. It was three years or whatever of my life that were just golden. She taught me perhaps to have a little too much fun." ■

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# Deep Watters

## Irish veteran earns first NSA jockey crown after teaming up with Fisher

BY SEAN CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOD MARKS

A day after clinching National Steeplechase Association championships at the Steeplechase of Charleston in November, Jack Fisher and Graham Watters were heading home to Maryland. Private jet? First class? OK, at least business select on Southwest? Not a chance. The trainer and the jockey were driving four horses–including the title clinchers Gostisbehere and Ghostlighter–home in Fisher's rig.

Miles ticked past along the 600-mile journey, a long trip at the end of a long season.

Watters answered his phone on the first ring.

"Hey Champ…"

"That sounds good," Watters said after being called Champ for the first time in his career. "That sounds good."

The 30-year-old Irishman had won two the previous day to clinch his first championship, 21-19, over his friend Tom Garner. Quality came with quantity as Watters won seven stakes in 84 rides, including his first Grade 1 score with Snap Decision in the Iroquois in June.

Riding first call for the first time for 14-time champion Fisher, Watters weathered a typically tumultuous season, starting off strong with 11 wins from April through June, two from July to October, three in October and then a flourish at the end with wins in five of his final eight rides, including a whip-waving crescendo on Gostisbehere. For the season, Watters won three for Mark Beecher, three for Neil Morris, one for Todd Wyatt and the rest for Fisher.

"To win the championship, when it was there, when I got it, it was great. I wasn't lying when I said it would be great to win it, but it wasn't what I set out this year to do, you've got to ride winners and earn a living for yourself and do the best you can on the horses," Watters said. "If Tom rode a winner and I didn't, I wasn't going to be devastated, I would have been upset but you look back on the year I had, it was class. In your career in racing, it's nice to be able to put a little marker next to it and say you've done that."

Part of a two-decade trend of English and Irish jockeys revitalizing and sometimes discovering careers in American steeplechasing, Watters became the 10th foreign-born jockey to win or share the riding crown since 2007. Titles come from opportunities and Watters seized the biggest one to fall into his tack bag when Fisher needed a first-call jockey to replace Michael Mitchell who decided to stay in England after a strong four-year stint here. Fisher called Watters, who had just finished an injury-shortened year with five wins from 32 starts in 2020 and just 16 wins since coming here in 2017. Watters, with business but not the business, had one question.

"Who rides Snap?" Watters asked when Fisher asked.

"You."

"I'll see you in the morning."

Champion novice on a seven-race win streak by a combined 61 lengths, yeah, Snap Decision will make you alter your morning plans. A decision based on one horse became the impetus to one goal.

"This is why you come to America," Watters said after guiding Snap Decision to the Grade 2 Temple Gwathmey, win

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**Graham Watters and Snap Decision head for home in the 2021 Iroquois.**

number eight in the streak, at Middleburg in April. "You wouldn't get to ride this work in Ireland or England."

And that's the crux of the journey, to ride good horses. That's what David Bentley achieved in 2002. What Xavier Aizpuru, Paddy Young and Ross Geraghty attained through the next decade. Willie McCarthy, Kieran Norris, Darren Nagle, Mitchell, Jack Doyle and Gerard Galligan . . . it's a well-worn path. Watters added his name to a list of European journeymen who carved their niche on the American steeplechase circuit (the last American-born champion was Danielle Hodsdon in 2006).

Watters' story is the blueprint to the trend. An organic start in Ireland, a promising stint as a conditional in England and then a stall, a struggle, a stagnation.

"I don't really have any family in horses. I just always loved horses. I started riding late in terms of Ireland, 8 or 9 years of age, I loved to go fast, horse racing was always the option, show jumping was always too slow. When I was 15, I was finally old enough to leave school. I was gone. I moved to the south of the country to work for Enda Bolger, learned how to jump horses and do all that. I spent a few years point-to-pointing in Ireland and learned how to ride young, green horses before moving to the north of England and then ventured to the south of England and then it got very, very tough."

Watters won eight of 82 in his first season (2012-13) in England and added another 56 wins through the 2016-17 season. He won the Betfred Eider Chase on Milborough (Ire) for Ian Duncan in 2015, picked up the John Smith's Summer Cup with Drop Out Joe (GB) for Charlie Longsdon in 2016 but ultimately, it was a slog, a long way behind the limelight set by A.P. McCoy, Richard Johnson, Ruby Walsh, Barry Geraghty and the Festival jockeys. The dieting, the miles, the falls, the losses, the expenses; a journeyman jump-jockey's life is no life. Plumpton Monday, Wincanton Tuesday, Leicester Wednesday, Exeter Thursday, Uttoxeter Friday, Haydock Saturday, Fakenham Sunday and around and around the wheel they go.

In his most lucrative season, 2016-17, Watters' horses earned £197,372. In quick math, that's about $25,000 in earnings for the jockey. Seven days a week, no traveling expenses, limited chance to make money in the morning as jockeys race from one schooling promise to the next racing pipe-dream.

Watters needed a change.

"I had a fantastic year, 2014-15, I had 25 winners, I won a listed race, my claim went down from 5 to 3 [pounds], but the opportunities dried up. I was driving 60-70,000 miles a year, all out of pocket, there wasn't much left for anything," Watters said. "You couldn't earn a living for yourself, that's why I ended up here. You can enjoy things here a little in the summer and the winter. Monday to Friday, you can have a normal life."

Watters tested America over a spring weekend in 2017. It was a weekend when the American jocks' room changed forever. Six-time champion jockey Paddy Young suffered a head injury at Radnor, he would never ride another race. Watters stepped in and won a handicap on Invocation (Fr) and the Grade 3 National Hunt Cup aboard Jamarjo (Ire). Watters wound up riding seven races that weekend–good horses–went home and began a plan to come back. Sold his Vauxhall, canceled his lease, applied for a visa. Three months later, he and fiancé, Rosie Allen, were here to stay, a one-way ticket to a last-chance bunker.

Leslie and Paddy Young provided the first steps. Owner Alex Leventhal, trainers Cyril Murphy and Neil Morris offered what they could. Watters won six races in 2018, endured a 0-for-43 start before winning four races in 2019, notched five (four maiden claimers and a maiden) in a 2020 season shortened by injury for Watters and shrunk by Covid-19 for the circuit while riding predominantly for Murphy and Morris.

And then Fisher called.

"Graham had ridden a few horses for me, he's always been a good rider, he just didn't have the stock to get on," Fisher said. "He originally said he wanted to show up on race day and I said, 'No, I want you to work every day, so you get to know the horses.' He agrees with that now. And it's important to me and it's important to my owners that he's a nice guy, too. That goes a long way."

It was the opportunity Watters needed.

"Snap was by far the best horse in the country at the time. For me to get the ride on him was a big help to me in my career. I've been riding 14, 15 years now and this year it's finally come right, I'm riding the best horses for the best trainer. I've ridden plenty of winners in England and Ireland, but it feels like those 15 years are paying off now," Watters said. "It took us a few years to get on our feet, but we love it. I had an idea to be second jockey behind Mikey but when he decided not to come back, Jack asked if I wanted to be the main guy. I was there the next day."

Watters, a teetotaler who competed as a professional cyclist in England, wasn't finished with 2021 highlights. Three weeks after winning the championship at Charleston, he and Allen flew to Perthshire, Scotland, to be married at Kinloch House, a hotel owned by Allen's parents.

Watters took his tack bag just in case. All the while, he was doing research.

"Who won the most jockey championships? Paddy Young? Five times?" Watters texted the history department (actually six and it's not the most).

"Joe Aitcheson Jr. and Dooley Adams."

"How many times?"

"Seven."

Six to go, kid. Six to go. ■

# Maryland Horse®

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# New bonuses aim to boost Maryland-sired success

By Cindy Deubler

The breeder of a Maryland-bred who races in Maryland and hits the board can't wait to get to the mailbox when the bonus check arrives (a list of payments run in most issues of the *Maryland Horse* newsletter). Starting in 2025, if those runners are also by Maryland stallions, the rewards will be worth 10 percent more.

In early December, the Maryland Horse Breeders Association announced added incentives, approved by the Maryland Racing Commission, to reward breeders. And if by Maryland sires, all the better.

"The purpose of these latest programs is to incentivize mare owners to breed to Maryland stallions," said Cricket Goodall, executive director of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association. "We have a great stallion roster already and some new stallions are coming to Maryland for the upcoming season. Our goal is, and will always be, to reward everyone who breeds, foals and races in Maryland."

Of the three incentives announced, two went into effect as of Jan. 1, 2022:

1) Bonuses for all stakes in Maryland have increased for breeders to 30 percent, and stallions to 10 percent, paid on first through third placings.

2) All Maryland-sired Maryland-bred maiden winners in Maryland earn an additional 10 percent breeder bonus (added to the existing 30 percent, it pushes the total to 40 percent).

And beginning with Maryland-bred foals of 2023 (2-year-olds of 2025), there will be a tiered breeder bonus system. The proposed percentages for that system are 35 percent to Maryland-sired Maryland-breds, and 25 percent to Maryland-breds paid for first through third on all overnight races. That amounts to 40 percent more for Maryland-sired Maryland-breds.

Longtime breeder, owner and trainer Katy Voss thinks the changes for Maryland-sired state-breds have been a long time coming.

"I'm finally glad to see it come to pass. I think Maryland Million is great, but that is the only thing we do for our local stallions," she said.

"When the mares stay in Maryland and go to Maryland stallions, that's money for the Maryland farms, rather than Kentucky farms. And same thing with stud fees. Plus, you have to pay 6 percent Kentucky state tax on those fees, which you don't have to do in Maryland."

Voss likes the additional changes for the maidens, as well as the return of the stakes bonuses.

There have been a number of tweaks and additions that benefited breeders and owners of state-breds, such as the developer bonus program announced by Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association and Maryland Jockey Club that started in January 2021 – a 15 percent bonus paid to the developer (the owner or owners of a horse when it makes its first start) for any Maryland-bred to finish first, second or third in an open overnight race at a Maryland track.

"We need more mares to go to Maryland stallions. We need more mares in Maryland period," said Voss. "A combination of these changes and what we did with the developer bonus is kind of changing the math on breeding in Maryland and developing your own horse. Or buying a yearling which will help all the Maryland breeders too if there is stronger demand at the yearling sales for their products.

"If you add up all those bonuses and include the owner and developer bonuses, now it'll be pretty attractive for somebody to breed a horse and race it themselves. The best of all possible worlds."

For stallion owners like Mike Pons of Country Life

Farm, boosting bonuses for offspring of Maryland stallions "is like sprinkling gold dust on them."

Pons pointed out it may make a trainer buy or add a 2-year-old to the barn because of its earnings power, or convince an owner who received a few bonus checks to buy another horse.

"If it moves the meter and people breed more mares here in Maryland. . . If it enhances the size of our foal crop and the quality of our Maryland-breds. . . That's exactly the intent of it all," said Pons. "And sometimes you move the meter to do different things and you have unintended consquences, good things, that happen.

"A guy throws another mare or two in the mix, when he was looking to just breed a mare. And then the 'player in later' is the star. It's funny how that works, but it's a little serendipity going for you."

In 2021, through early October, 902 Maryland-breds started at Laurel, Pimlico and Timonium, making 3,232 starts–those runners finished in the top three 1,326 times to earn bonuses. Of those in the top three, 756 (or 57 percent) were Maryland-sired. That percentage will increase if breeders take advantage.

"It's a mutifaceted benefit," said Pons. "For the folks who are playing, it gives them all the encouragement in the world. A lot of folks aren't aware of the changes in the program nationwide. They really don't know yet, or know the consequences. But for the local players it's music to their ears. Nothing sells a program like success.

"Everyone is looking to get the ball rolling, but once you get it moving. . . we're grateful for that."


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# Maryland-bred Stakes Winners

## Field Pass finds more success out west in Seabiscuit Handicap

Field Pass became a graded winner on both coasts in 2021 when he added Del Mar's $250,000 Seabiscuit Handicap-G2 Nov. 27, scoring by a head over Sacred Life (Fr). The victory gets added to his score in Pimlico's Baltimore/Washington International Turf Cup-G3 in July.

Trainer Mike Maker sent the Three Diamonds Farm colorbearer out six times, all in graded stakes, before making the cross-country trip. A month earlier, Field Pass set the pace in Belmont Park's Grade 3 Knickerbocker and was nipped at the wire by Sacred Life.

Umberto Rispoli settled Field Pass for his Del Mar debut, a few lengths off the pace. Heading down the backstretch, Field Pass launched a sweeping move, kicked clear in upper stretch and gunned for home. Sacred Life took aim but to no avail. Field Pass stopped the clock at 1:41.85 for 1⅛ miles on the turf.

"I didn't want to stop the stride of my horse. He was running happy and I was happy, too," said Rispoli. "He fought hard late and we got there first."

A son of Lemon Drop Kid, Field Pass was Maryland's champion 3-year-old male of 2020 and returned at 4 to finish fourth in Keeneland's Maker's Mark Mile-G1. He lost his next two, but returned to the winner's circle at Pimlico.

In 23 starts he has competed at 11 tracks while improving his record to 8-3-3 as he nears the $1 million mark in earnings, with $913,143. He has raced exclusively in stakes in 17 starts the past two years, all but four graded, hitting the board in 11.

Bred by New Jersey resident Mark Grier, Field Pass was sold for $37,000 as a yearling to Owls Bloodstock at the 2018 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall sale. He is one of two named foals for his dam Only Me, by Runaway Groom, who also produced 2021 Alphabet Soup Handicap winner You Must Chill. The mare sold privately after producing a colt by Imagining in 2018 (who later died) and has not been bred since. ❧

## Cordmaker back on top in Richard W. Small Stakes

In his eighth stakes start of the year, Hillwood Stable's Cordmaker powered down the stretch to win the $100,000 Richard W. Small Stakes at Laurel Park Nov. 27.

Seeking his third stakes victory of the year, Cordmaker settled to the outside, a few lengths off frontrunner Workin On a Dream, off modest fractions of :24.58 and :47.59.

Favorite Shackqueenking joined the leader after a half-mile and they opened up on the rest of the 10-horse field. Victor Carrasco sent Cordmaker after the dueling pair and caught them at the head of the stretch. He was geared down in the final jumps and hit the wire 1¾ lengths better than Workin On a Dream in a 1:50.48 for 1⅛ miles.

Trainer Rodney Jenkins said: "I wanted him to stay closer. We've been taking him, not way out of it, but pretty far and that's a lot of ground to make up in a stakes race. I told Victor, 'Keep him up in there and make them run,' and he did. Victor gave him a great ride."

The win lessened the pain from his previous start, the Polynesian Stakes at Laurel in September, where the chestnut gelding finished second to Captain Bombtastic but was disqualified and placed last following a stewards' inquiry and objection by the rider of Alwaysmining.

Cordmaker won Laurel's Harrison E. Johnson Memorial in March and the Victory Gallop at Colonial Downs in August and finished third in the Jennings, John B. Campbell and Deputed Testamony.

From 33 starts over five seasons, the son of Curlin improved his record to 11 wins, four seconds and seven thirds to push his earnings to $734,640.

The Maryland-bred champion older male of 2019 after a 4-year-old season in which he won five of eight starts, including the Harrison E. Johnson, Polynesian and DTHA Governors Day Handicap, and was third in the Pimlico Special-G3, Cordmaker didn't return to the winner's circle for a year and a half, although he

did hit the board in six stakes, including another third in the Pimlico Special-G3.

Bred by Bob Manfuso and Katy Voss, Cordmaker was purchased by Ellen Charles' Hillwood as a yearling for $150,000 out of the 2016 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall sale. The seventh foal out of the Polish Numbers mare Tanca, he is her third stakes winner, along with Corvus (Dance With Ravens) and 2019 Maryland-bred champion 3-year-old filly Las Setas (Seville-Ger). Tanca is the dam of seven starters, all winners, from nine named foals of racing age. Her 2019 colt by Street Sense, a $240,000 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall sales yearling, isn't named; her current 2-year-old is a colt by Madefromlucky who failed to reach his reserve at last fall's Midlantic sale. Tanca delivered a filly by Honor Code in March 2021, and was bred back to Vino Rosso. ❧

## Local Motive adds momentum with James F. Lewis III victory

Bird Mobberley's Local Motive redeemed himself in the $100,000 James F. Lewis III Stakes for juveniles as he rolled down the stretch to record his second stakes win Nov. 13 at Laurel Park.

Coming in off a third as one of the favorites in the Maryland Million Nursery, Local Motive headed straight to the front in the Lewis before settling into third on the outside, 2 lengths behind early leader Amidships through an opening quarter-mile in :21.98, Local Motive moved three wide entering the far turn and gained the lead in upper stretch. A battle soon ensued as he was passed briefly by Beast Or Famine, who was making his move down the center of the track and started to drift out. Local Motive kept finding more and held off Beast Or Famine to win by a head in 1:10.16 for 6 furlongs.

"I was a little worried. I thought that [Beast Or Famine] got by him. It's hard to tell when they're that far apart in the middle of the racetrack. I wasn't coming to the winner's circle until I was sure," said trainer John Salzman Jr. "I think he's getting better with every race. I was a little scared after he got hit in the eye at Timonium that he didn't like the dirt. Today we decided that we'd just take back a little bit and see if he'd finish a little stronger. He ran a big race."

Breeders Wasabi Ventures Stables and Greenspring Mares purchased Wild for Love, with Local Motive in utero, privately from Bowmans and Higgins Stable, who stayed on as a co-breeder. The son of Country Life Farm freshman sire Divining Rod was born March 10, 2019, at GreenMount Farm and purchased privately as a weanling by Salzman, for Mobberley.

Local Motive was the first stakes winner for his sire when he won the Hickory Tree over the Colonial Downs turf in August. Unplaced in the Maryland Juvenile Championship in December as the favorite after contesting the early lead, he finished the year 7-3-0-1 with earnings of $164,160.

Local Motive is the third winner from three starters for dam Wild for Love, a winning daughter of Not For Love who captured the 2015 Maryland Million Distaff Starter Handicap. The mare's 2021 filly by Maximus Mischief sold for $60,000 at the Keeneland November sale.

Wild for Love was bred to Lord Nelson for 2022. ❧




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# Stakes winner Gale sells for $430,000 to top Md.-breds at Keeneland November

Stakes winner Gale, bred by R.S. Evans, was the highest-priced Maryland-bred to sell at Keeneland's November breeding stock sale, Nov. 10-19, in Lexington, Ky.

The sale included 25 Maryland-breds sold, with nine bringing six figures.

Gale, bred to Not This Time and carrying her first foal, sold for $430,000 and was purchased by Andrew Warren, from the consignment of Gainesway, Agent. The daughter of Tonalist out of the stakes-winning Stormy Atlantic mare Windy Forecast, Gale made five starts, retiring with a record of 3-1-0 that included a score in the Geisha Stakes a year ago in her lone start at 4 .

Gale was originally sent through the auction ring as a weanling, where she was purchased for $175,000 by Springhouse Farm at the 2017 Fasig-Tipton Kentucky mixed sale, and sold the following August to Quarter Pole Enterprises for $200,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga select sale. As a 2-year-old her price only increased as Bridlewood Farm and Eclipse Thoroughbreds went to $450,000 for her at the Fasig-Tipton Florida select sale of 2-year-olds.

Via Veritas, consigned by Hunter Valley Farm, agent, and in foal to No Nay Never, sold for $275,000 to Magna Carta Bloodstock. Bred by Maryland Mare Venture, the now 5-year-old daughter of Street Sense was unplaced in three starts while racing in England at 2 and 3 but boasts a Grade 1 family. The $340,000 sales yearling is a half-sister to multiple graded stakes-placed Cool Beans as well as to the dam of Arkansas Derby-G1 winner Magnum Moon. Her dam, Win McCool, a Grade 3-winning daughter of Giant's Causeway, is a half-sister to Grade 1 winner Harmony Lodge and Grade 2 Arkansas Derby winner Graeme Hall.

**The top Maryland-breds at Keeneland November were Gale (top) for $430,000 and Via Veritas for $275,000.**

The Maryland-bred champion older female and turf runner of 2018 I'm Betty G, in foal to Improbable, was purchased for $275,000 by Stoneriggs Farm out of the Bluewater Sales consignment. Bred by Carol Kaye and Boyce Stable, the daughter of Into Mischief and Lady in Ermine (Honour and Glory) sold for $150,000 as a 2-year-old to Three Diamonds Farm and made 19 starts, retiring as a multiple stakes winner with a record of 5-2-5 that included placings in three graded stakes.

Another Maryland-bred champion, 2017 2-year-old filly Limited View, sold to Mulholland Springs for $230,000 carrying her first foal (by Maclean's Music), from Scott Mallory's consignment. Bred by Barbara Smith, the daughter of Freedom Child and Loves to Glance (Not For Love) earned $401,141 while winning nine of 25 starts over four seasons.

Two 2021 stakes-placed Sagamore Farm-breds sold as racing or broodmare prospects. Whispering Pines, a now 5-year-old daughter of Uncle Mo out of Maryland-bred champion Walkwithapurpose, sold for $185,000 to Olivia Perkins-Mackey. Quiet Company, now 6, a daughter of Temple City out of Clarendon Fancy, was purchaed for $175,000 by Ocala Stud.

Top-priced weanlings were a Nyquist colt (Hip 298), consigned by Scott Mallory, sold for $130,000 to Sonny Stokes/Hoby Kight, and a Constitution colt, consigned by Eaton Sales, purchased by Oracle Bloodstock for $110,000.

Bred by 2500 Determined Stud, the Nyquist colt is the first foal out of Tough Irma, a stakes-placed daughter of Stormy Atlantic and half-sister to United Nations-G1 winner Turbo Compressor from the family of multiple Grade 1 winner Southern Image.

The Constitution colt, bred by Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau, is the 12th foal out of the Kissin Kris mare Wood Not, thus a half-brother to Grade 3 winner and Grade 1 producer Purely Hot and stakes-placed Steamy Hot.

Sold for $100,000, Holiday Blues, in foal to American Pharoah, was consigned by Eaton Sales, and purchased by Four Pillars Holdings. Bred by Marathon Farms, the daughter of Ghostzapper out of Deputy Cure Blues (War Deputy) retired with a record of 15-3-1-3. Now 9, her first two foals are by Speightstown and Street Sense.

Maryland-breds sold for $2,286,000, while averaging $91,440, in comparison to the overall average of $82,001.

# Maryland Fund Stakes Recaps

## Whereshetoldmetogo

**Howard and Sondra Bender Memorial Stakes**
$75,000-guaranteed, 7 fur., registered Maryland-bred or sired, 3 & up. Laurel Park, Nov. 26.

Ch.g., 2015, El Padrino—Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute. Bred by David H. Wade; owned by Madaket Stables LLC, Ten Strike Racing, Michael E. Kisber and BTR Racing Inc.; trained by Brittany Russell. Foaled at Sycamore Hall, Chesapeake City, Md.

| | | | | | *Lifetime* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *starts* | *1st* | *2nd* | *3rd* | | *earnings* |
| 31 | 13 (10) | 5 (3) | 3 (3) | | $744,791 |
| | | | | | (through Nov. 26) |

**2017:** 1st $75,000 **First State Dash S**, 5½ fur., Del.-bred or certified 2-year-olds, Delaware, Sept. 30; 2nd **Smooth Air S.** **2018:** 1st $60,000 **American Fabius S**, 7 fur., 3-year-olds who had started for a claiming price of $50,000 or less, Gulfstream, Feb. 17; $75,000 **Concern S**, 7 fur., 3-year-olds, Laurel, July 7; $75,000 **Star de Naskra S**, 6 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired 3-year-olds, Laurel, Aug. 18; 2nd **Gallant Bob S-G3**. **2019:** 3rd **Thanksgiving Classic S.** **2020:** 1st $100,000 **Frank Y. Whiteley S**, 6 fur., 3 & up, Laurel, Nov. 28; $100,000 **Dave's Friend S**, 6 fur., 3 & up, Laurel, Dec. 26; 2nd **New Castle S**; 3rd **Iowa Sprint S**. **2021:** 1st $75,000 **Not For Love S**, 6 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired, 4 & up, Laurel, March 13; $50,000 **Alapocas Run S**, 6 fur., 3 & up, Delaware, July 3; $100,000 **New Castle S**, 6 fur., Del.-bred or certified, 3 & up, Delaware, Sept. 25; $75,000 **Howard and Sondra Bender Memorial S**, 7 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired, 3 & up, Laurel, Nov. 26; 3rd **Challedon S**.

Whereshetoldmetogo has traveled all over, but there's no place like home. He picked up his sixth stakes win from eight starts at Laurel Park in the $75,000 Howard and Sondra Bender Memorial Stakes Nov. 26.

In his first outing since taking the New Castle Stakes at Delaware Park in September, the Brittany Russell-trained gelding raced midpack early as Youngest of Five led seven Maryland-breds through an opening quarter-mile in :23.80.

After a half in :46.73, Whereshetoldmetogo picked up momentum around the turn and came four-wide entering the stretch. Youngest of Five proved tough on the lead, wandered a bit as he aimed at the wire, but Whereshetoldmetogo was relentless in his pursuit and got up to win by a neck, in 1:23.43 for 7 furlongs.

"He relaxed really good in the beginning and I knew I had a ton of horse. Sometimes he switches leads and sometimes he doesn't, but today he switched leads and as soon as he did that I said, 'It's over.' He gave all 100 percent," said rider Jevian Toledo.

It was the chestnut son of El Padrino's fourth win in seven starts during his 6-year-old campaign, all in stakes company. Owned by Madaket Stables, Ten Strike Racing, Michael Kisber and BTR Racing, Whereshetoldmetogo secured his 10th stakes victory from 31 starts and pushed his earnings to $744,791.

Whereshetoldmetogo entered 2021 on a stakes win streak, which expanded to three when he captured Laurel's Not For Love to kick off the year. He added the Alapocas and New Castle at Delaware Park and was third in the Challedon at Pimlico in July.

Bred by David Wade, Whereshetoldmetogo is one of seven winners from eight starters for his dam Undisputed Legend, a daughter of Domestic Dispute who is also the dam of stakes-placed Castlewood Terrace. The mare delivered a Mendelssohn colt in February and is in foal to Vekoma for this year.

## Princess Kokachin

**Politely Stakes**
$75,000-guaranteed, 6 fur., registered Maryland-bred or sired fillies and mares, 3 & up. Laurel Park, Nov. 26.

Dk.b./br.f., 2018, by Graydar—Serenity Hill, by Speightstown. Bred by Nancy M. Rizer and Eric A. Rizer (Md.); owned by Eric A. Rizer; trained by John J. Robb. Foaled at Anchor and Hope Farm, Port Deposit, Md.

| | | | | | *Lifetime* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *starts* | *1st* | *2nd* | *3rd* | | *earnings* |
| 12 | 7 (1) | 2 | 0 | | $218,875 |
| | | | | | (through Nov. 26) |

**2021:** 1st $75,000 **Politely S**, 6 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired fillies and mares, 3 & up, Laurel, Nov. 26.

In her stakes debut, Eric Rizer's Princess Kokachin shot to the front and never looked back as she thrashed a field of Maryland-bred fillies and mares that included 1-5 choice Hello Beautiful and Maryland-bred champion Never Enough Time in the Politely at Laurel Park Nov. 26.

Looking for her fifth straight win, a streak that began at Laurel in September, Princess Kokachin broke to the immediate outside of Hello Beautiful and was urged to join the expected frontrunner. Hello Beautiful backed out and Princess Kokachin opened a clear lead after a quarter-mile in :21.98.

One of two sophomores in the field of five, the daughter of Graydar flew through the half in :45.12 and was 5½ lengths in front at the top of the stretch. Never Enough Time gave chase but wound up second, 2¼ lengths better than Paisley Singing. Whereshetoldmetogo's half-sister Miss Chesapeake, making her second start, finished fourth, edging stablemate Hello Beautiful, who was last of five.

The finish created show payoffs of $21.20 for Princess Kokachin (she paid $14.40 to win), $15.60 for Never Enough Time and a whopping $55.80 for Paisley Singing.

"I just told Xavier to ride her the same way he always

does," said trainer Jerry Robb. "Don't worry about who's in the race, just ride your race, and it worked out good. [Hello Beautiful] couldn't keep up with us, and the one post is not good if you can't keep up. It worked out perfect." Final time for the 6 furlongs was 1:11.22.

Princess Kokachin launched her career at Charles Town at 2 in December 2020, finished second, and didn't reappear until May when winning a 4½-furlong maiden special weight at Charles Town by 12½ lengths. Her next win came at Pimlico in August going 5 furlongs in an off-the-turf starter race.

After a fourth at Timonium early September, she kicked off her win streak at Laurel in a 6-furlong starter. She secured back-to-back allowance scores in October, the first going 5½ furlongs and the next at 6 furlongs, and then dominated a mid-November allowance.

In her 12-start career, Princess Kokachin has a record of 7-2-0 for earnings of $218,875.

Bred by Nancy and Eric Rizer, Princess Kokachin is the third foal out of Serenity Hill, a winning daughter of Speightstown whose three starters (all winners) from four foals include stakes-placed 2-year-old Sparkle Sprinkle (Holy Boss). Serenity Hill was bred to Golden Lad for 2022.

# Maryland Fund Report

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks
September 1 to September 30, 2021

## Breeder bonuses

Alan Kline Marital Trust—My My Girl: Sept. 12, 7th race, $1,440.

Andrew E. Ali—Royalian: Sept. 10, 2nd race, $630.

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc.—Ink: Sept. 25, 7th race, $2,070. She'sarollingstone: Sept. 24, 8th race, $1,200. ($3,270)

Angelinos Racing LLC—Miranda's Desmond: Sept. 12, 8th race, $7,020.

Barak Farm—She Is Wisky: Sept. 9, 6th race, $1,380. Some Is Nine: Sept. 4, 5th race, $1,170. Stroll Smokin: Sept. 24, 2nd race, $840. ($3,390)

David Baxter Sr.—Miss Casey: Sept. 23, 6th race, $1,170.

William Bayne—D C Fireman: Sept. 5, 9th race, $2,700.

Best Foot Forward LLC—Gallant Gold: Sept. 4, 7th race, $5,670.

David Benjamin Bloom—Bullets Lady: Sept. 17, 4th race, $1,500.

Richard F. Blue Jr.—Raeford: Sept. 5, 1st race, $2,700. Seville Row: Sept. 17, 2nd race, $1,500. ($4,200)

Bonita Farm—Calypso Ghost: Sept. 5, 2nd race, $3,060; Sept. 24, 4th race, $4,500. ($7,560)

Bowman and Higgins Stable—Congress Hall: Sept. 4, 9th race, $3,060.

Bowman and Higgins Stable and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Unrequited Love: Sept. 6, 2nd race, $6,210; Sept. 17, 5th race, $5,040. ($11,250)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Brooke Bowman and R. Larry Johnson—By the Sey Shore: Sept. 26, 7th race, $1,440.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Claire's Darling: Sept. 10, 1st race, $4,680. Shady Munni: Sept. 24, 9th race, $7,020. Tom Terrific: Sept. 4, 2nd race, $1,020. ($12,720)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Rebecca Davis and R. Larry Johnson—Petes Pride: Sept. 3, 2nd race, $1,020.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Shawn M. Howser—Bourbon Wildcat: Sept. 11, 6th race, $1,500.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and R. Larry Johnson—Something Magical: Sept. 11, 5th race, $720. Up Against It: Sept. 9, 8th race, $1,440. ($2,160)

Derek Brown—Sloe Gin Biz: Sept. 23, 10th race, $1,890.

Buckingham Farm—I Love You: Sept. 11, 7th race, $8,640.

Buckingham Farm and Morgan's Ford Farm—Love My Cat: Sept. 19, 9th race, $1,500.

Louis C. Carrico—Divine Proportion: Sept. 10, 9th race, $750.

Charm City Racing LLC—Hickory Made: Sept. 6, 9th race, $900.

Henry S. Clark III—Glengar: Sept. 12, 2nd race, $510.

Classic Thoroughbred XII—Kiss the Girl: Sept. 25, 9th race, $3,120.

Clover Hill Farm Inc.—Crack the Safe: Sept. 19, 1st race, $750. The Big Mozz: Sept. 10, 2nd race, $1,260. ($2,010)

Clover Hill Racing LLC—Ladneedsahandler: Sept. 19, 4th race, $4,500.

Randy L. Cohen and Alyse L. Cohen—Honor My World: Sept. 26, 1st race, $4,500. Stand My Ground: Sept. 11, 9th race, $1,020. ($5,520)

Cliff and Mary Cornwell and Country Life Farm—Super Houdini: Sept. 4, 1st race, $945.

Country Life Farm—Billingsgate: Sept. 11, 2nd race, $5,670; Sept. 23, 1st race, $960. ($6,630)

Country Life Farm and As Long As Ittakes LLC—Mose Definitely: Sept. 3, 6th race, $630.

Country Life Farm and Estate of Mildred Wilson—Natty Beau: Sept. 16, 7th race, $3,060.

Country Life Farm and Fifteen Moons LLC—Moonsafe: Sept. 3, 7th race, $2,880; Sept. 12, 7th race, $2,880. ($5,760)

Country Life Farm and Grecian Maiden LLC—Ghost Maiden: Sept. 5, 3rd race, $2,760; Sept. 23, 5th race, $2,340. ($5,100)

Country Life Farm and Imagistic LLC—Mosler's Image: Sept. 9, 5th race, $1,560.

Country Life Farm and Moon Map Broodmare LLC—Threethehardway: Sept. 30, 4th race, $1,020.

Country Life Farm and Sassy Molly LLC—Pepe and Heywood: Sept. 25, 10th race, $1,020.

Dark Hollow Farm—Consultant: Sept. 18, 7th race, $2,760.

Cynthia J. Darrah-Hipple—Lady Zeta: Sept. 18, 3rd race, $1,890.

John C. Davison—Love Dust: Sept. 17, 4th race, $750.

D. Hatman Thoroughbreds LLC—Notion Interruptus: Sept. 12, 4th race, $3,780; Sept. 23, 4th race, $510. ($4,290)

Hassan Elamri—Golden Can: Sept. 16, 2nd race, $8,640.

Robert S. Evans—Bayano: Sept. 11, 9th race, $510.

Steve R. Ferguson—Rapid Response: Sept. 23, 7th race, $2,070.

Finale Farm and Mr. and Mrs. David Moose—Hufflepuff: Sept. 11, 6th race, $750. Rock the Boat: Sept. 18, 11th race, $1,200. ($1,950)

Fitzhugh LLC—Matta: Sept. 11, 8th race, $9,360. Sheriff's Kid: Sept. 3, 9th race, $1,020. ($10,380)

Paul L. Fowler Jr.—Band On Tour: Sept. 23, 9th race, $10,080.

Robert J. Gerczak—Beltway Bob: Sept. 16, 8th race, $7,200. Dialing Dixie: Sept. 6, 7th race, $6,210. ($13,410)

Glenangus Farm LLC—Iron Pearls: Sept. 5, 6th race, $450.

William R. Gotwals—Polished Gal: Sept. 30, 5th race, $7,200.

Sheryl Grant—She's All Courage: Sept. 25, 3rd race, $750.

Fred A. Greene Jr., Deborah Greene and Hamilton Smith—Luna Belle: Sept. 18, 10th race, $1,440.

Erin Lee Harrison—Uncle Cecil: Sept. 5, 6th race, $2,700.

Michael J. Harrison DVM—Broadway Melody: Sept. 12, 8th race, $1,170.

Harry Kassap LLC—Left Blank: Sept. 9, 2nd race, $945.

Terri Haupt—Talented Dr. B: Sept. 6, 4th race, $510.

Hearts Desire Farm LLC and Winding Creek Farm—Looks Don't Lie: Sept. 18, 1st race, $945; Sept. 30, 1st race, $2,340. ($3,285)

Hillwood Stable LLC—Bunting: Sept. 16, 9th race, $9,360. Dream Big Dreams: Sept. 25, 8th race, $8,640. Hello Beautiful: Sept. 18, 4th race, $9,000. Misty's Banshee: Sept. 23, 5th race, $7,020. Misty's Lass: Sept. 23, 6th race, $2,340. Twist 'n Twirl: Sept. 24, 9th race, $1,170. ($37,530)

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Holt—Golden Lassie: Sept. 4, 9th race, $1,020.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Holt and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Palumbo—Ima Ima Starboy: Sept. 26, 3rd race, $1,440.

Hope Hill Farm—Buff My Boots: Sept. 4, 8th race, $8,640.

Michael and Debbie Horning—Da Money: Sept. 17, 3rd race, $1,170.

Sallyellen and Hugh Hurst—Bet On Bitz: Sept. 16, 5th race, $4,500.

Ann B. Jackson—Artful Splatter: Sept. 18, 6th race, $3,000.

Jagger Inc.—Aprilness: Sept. 26, 8th race, $4,680. Muchacho Macho: Sept. 11, 9th race, $3,060. ($7,740)

R. Larry Johnson—Magic in Me: Sept. 18, 3rd race, $945. Never Enough Time: Sept. 18, 4th race, $1,500. Sky's Not Falling: Sept. 18, 11th race, $7,200. Spun Glass: Sept. 30, 8th race, $1,680. Who Knows What: Sept. 30, 1st race, $7,020. ($18,345)

Hope Haskell Jones—Depository: Sept. 16, 8th race, $2,400.

Carol A. Kaye—Air Token: Sept. 23, 9th race, $3,360. Charm City Band: Sept. 6, 7th race, $1,035; Sept. 23, 1st race, $5,760. ($10,155)

Timothy L. Keefe—Watch Me Disappear: Sept. 30, 1st race, $1,170.

Wendy M. Komlo—Whatchasaid: Sept. 17, 3rd race, $7,020.

Lady Olivia at North Cliff LLC—Lady Fox: Sept. 11, 3rd race, $1,440.

Andrea G. Lematta—Ice Rain: Sept. 23, 8th race, $1,920.

Little Man Farm—Benny Havens: Sept. 16, 8th race, $1,200.

Robert T. Manfuso and Katharine M. Voss—Moquist: Sept. 5, 3rd race, $8,280; Sept. 24, 8th race, $7,200. ($15,480)

Marathon Farm Inc.—Abuelo Paps: Sept. 17, 9th race, $7,200.

Mezza Luna Farm LLC—Magical Luna: Sept. 3, 3rd race, $1,440.

Mill Hill Stable LLC—Millie Child: Sept. 26, 8th race, $1,560. Sebastian: Sept. 23, 8th race, $960. ($2,520)

Angie G. Moore—Littlebitalily: Sept. 24, 4th race, $1,500.

Angie Moore and Tiznow Syndicate—Mystic Times: Sept. 12, 2nd race, $3,060.

Athol W. Morgan M.D.—Ms. Haiti: Sept. 3, 4th race, $3,060.

Kevin P. Morgan—Fancy Princess: Sept. 5, 8th race, $2,070.

Mrs. J.W.Y. Martin Jr.—Dontcrossfuzzy: Sept. 16, 5th race, $1,500.

Edmund T. Mudge IV—Amplio Esquema: Sept. 30, 9th race, $960.

Audrey R. Murray—Pet's Night: Sept. 25, 10th race, $510. Pounding Music: Sept. 23, 5th race, $1,170. ($1,680)

Nancy Lee Farms—Polish Cookie: Sept. 5, 3rd race, $1,380.

Northview Stallion Station Inc.—All for Love: Sept. 4, 7th race, $1,890.

Clarke Ohrstrom—Jardani: Sept. 18, 7th race, $1,380.

David W. Palmer—Preparefortakeoff: Sept. 6, 3rd race, $2,760; Sept. 30, 7th race, $2,760. ($5,520)

A. Leonard Pineau—No More Mask: Sept. 6, 1st race, $3,780.

Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau—Factorintheheat: Sept. 18, 2nd race, $1,035.

Vivian E. Rall—Epic Idea: Sept. 30, 5th race, $1,200. Great Idea: Sept. 25, 6th race, $7,020. ($8,220)

Eric A. Rizer and Nancy M. Rizer—Subject to Change: Sept. 24, 3rd race, $6,210.

Nancy M. Rizer and Eric A. Rizer—Princess Kokachin: Sept. 18, 2nd race, $6,210.

Thomas J. and Tara L. Rooney—McLucy: Sept. 6, 9th race, $2,700.

Timothy J. Rooney—B Determined: Sept. 12, 6th race, $2,070.

## Maryland-bred top earners in 2021

(through December 1)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Knicks Go | $7,324,140 | 11. Exculpatory | $204,262 |
| 2. Aloha West | 1,311,068 | 12. Whereshetoldmetogo | 203,500 |
| 3. Field Pass | 347,250 | 13. Air Token | 192,816 |
| 4. Jaxon Traveler | 304,948 | 14. Kiss the Girl | 171,680 |
| 5. Street Lute | 276,040 | 15. Local Motive | 161,160 |
| 6. Hello Beautiful | 267,710 | 16. Galerio | 156,707 |
| 7. Cordmaker | 223,500 | 17. Runup | 153,510 |
| 8. Princess Kokachin | 215,500 | 18. Band On Tour | 152,110 |
| 9. Malibu Beauty | 208,188 | 19. Youngest of Five | 147,157 |
| 10. Tappin Cat | 206,561 | 20. Amendment Nineteen | 147,020 |

Alexandro Rubim-Dias—Award Nominated: Sept. 25, 5th race, $945. Award Wanted: Sept. 24, 8th race, $2,400. ($3,345)

Monica Ryan—Nordic Rhythm: Sept. 25, 6th race, $1,170.

Sagamore Farm LLC—Quiet Company: Sept. 30, 8th race, $3,360. Youngest of Five: Sept. 26, 6th race, $9,360. ($12,720)

Shamrock Farm—Ran Char: Sept. 4, 4th race, $2,070. Sue Loves Barbados: Sept. 10, 8th race, $1,440; Sept. 18, 11th race, $2,400. ($5,910)

M. Terry Shane—Margie's Heaven: Sept. 16, 9th race, $3,120.

Stephen T. Sinatra—Jackie A: Sept. 17, 9th race, $2,400.

Mary Slade—Grand Skylark: Sept. 30, 5th race, $2,400.

Smith Farm and Stable—Raven Rahy: Sept. 5, 1st race, $450.

Hamilton A. Smith—I'm Gittin There: Sept. 3, 1st race, $7,020.

Hamilton Smith, Fred Greene Jr. and Deborah Greene—The Poser: Sept. 3, 8th race, $3,120.

South Branch Equine LLC—Robert's Luxury: Sept. 18, 5th race, $1,920. Who's Counting: Sept. 12, 5th race, $4,500. ($6,420)

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Spingler and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mongold—C Two: Sept. 12, 4th race, $630.

St Augustine Manor LLC—Lady Tizmo: Sept. 6, 9th race, $450.

John D. Stuart—Bust'em Kurt: Sept. 19, 2nd race, $2,760.

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC—Call It Love: Sept. 9, 4th race, $2,760. Sally's Mustang: Sept. 11, 4th race, $960; Sept. 30, 9th race, $1,920. Singlino: Sept. 3, 8th race, $1,560. Sweet Gracie: Sept. 18, 10th race, $2,880. Whiteknuckleflyer: Sept. 9, 9th race, $2,760. ($12,840)

The Elkstone Group, LLC—Click to Confirm: Sept. 18, 3rd race, $5,670. Self Awareness: Sept. 4, 3rd race, $1,020. ($6,690)

Thornmar Farm LLC—Coconut Cake: Sept. 18, 4th race, $3,000. Expect the Sunrise: Sept. 5, 4th race, $1,890. Fudge Cake: Sept. 23, 4th race, $3,060. ($7,950)

Thornmar Farm and Colleen Torsney—Justwaveandsmile: Sept. 17, 8th race, $780.

University of Maryland—Fearless Lassie: Sept. 9, 1st race, $1,020. Hell in a Shell: Sept. 24, 1st race, $6,210. ($7,230)

Walter N. Vieser II—Americas Woman: Sept. 12, 1st race, $1,500; Sept. 26, 5th race, $750. Francis X.: Sept. 26, 4th race, $750. Italian Dressing: Sept. 3, 7th race, $1,440. ($4,440)

Robert S. Vukelic—Crouchelli: Sept. 3, 8th race, $9,360.

Maureen Wade—He's a Shooter: Sept. 4, 1st race, $5,670; Sept. 23, 8th race, $5,760. ($11,430)

Mr. and Mrs. Bayne Welker Jr.—Deshackled: Sept. 19, 4th race, $1,500.

Bayne C. and Christina Welker—Princess Teruko: Sept. 17, 1st race, $1,380.

Winners Circle Partners VIII—Golazo: Sept. 16, 7th race, $510; Sept. 24, 5th race, $3,960. ($4,470)

Eric J. Wirth—Candy Corner: Sept. 3, 5th race, $1,260.

Mrs. Frank P. Wright—Grace Isabella: Sept. 24, 1st race, $2,070.

WWCD LLC—Mattitude: Sept. 4, 5th race, $2,340.

### Stallion bonuses

Admiral Alex (Grand Skylark: Sept. 30, 5th race, $800): Leon Blusiewicz.

Bandbox (Artful Splatter: Sept. 18, 6th race, $1,000. Band On Tour: Sept. 23, 9th race, $3,360. Bunting: Sept. 16, 9th race, $3,120. Coconut Cake: Sept. 18, 4th race, $1,000. Dream Big Dreams: Sept. 25, 8th race, $2,880. Fudge Cake: Sept. 23, 4th race, $1,020. Sweet Gracie: Sept. 18, 10th race, $960. The Poser: Sept. 3, 8th race, $1,040): Bandbox Syndicate—$14,380.

Barbados (Sue Loves Barbados: Sept. 10, 8th race, $480; Sept. 18, 11th race, $800): Shamrock Farm—$1,280.

Blofeld (Miss Casey: Sept. 23, 6th race, $390): Blofeld Syndicate.

Bourbon Courage (Bourbon Wildcat: Sept. 11, 6th race, $500. Ink: Sept. 25, 7th race, $690. She's All Courage: Sept. 25, 3rd race, $250. She'sarollingstone: Sept. 24, 8th race, $400. The Big Mozz: Sept. 10, 2nd race, $420): Bourbon Courage Syndicate—$2,260.00

Buffum (Award Nominated: Sept. 25, 5th race, $315. Buff My Boots: Sept. 4, 8th race, $2,880. Fancy Princess: Sept. 5, 8th race, $690. Hell in a Shell: Sept. 24, 1st race, $2,070. Ima Ima Starboy: Sept. 26, 3rd race, $480): Buffum Syndicate—$6,435.

Cal Nation (Threethehardway: Sept. 30, 4th race, $340): Cal Nation Syndicate..

Despite the Odds (Petes Pride: Sept. 3, 2nd race, $340. Unrequited Love: Sept. 6, 2nd race, $2,070; Sept. 17, 5th race, $1,680. Up Against It: Sept. 9, 8th race, $480): R. Larry Johnson—$4,570.

Divining Rod (Bet On Bitz: Sept. 16, 5th race, $1,500. Bust'em Kurt: Sept. 19, 2nd race, $920): Country Life Farm—$2,420.

Etched (Calypso Ghost: Sept. 5, 2nd race, $1,020; Sept. 24, 4th race, $1,500): Bonita Farm Stallion Partnership—$2,520.

Freedom Child (Glengar: Sept. 12, 2nd race, $170. Millie Child: Sept. 26, 8th race, $520. Tom Terrific: Sept. 4, 2nd race, $340): Freedom Child Syndicate—$1,030.

Friesan Fire (D C Fireman: Sept. 5, 9th race, $900. Shady Munni: Sept. 24, 9th race, $2,340): Friesan Fire Syndicate—$3,240.

Golden Lad (Air Token: Sept. 23, 9th race, $1,120. Broadway Melody: Sept. 12, 8th race, $390. C Two: Sept. 12, 4th race, $210. Gallant Gold: Sept. 4, 7th race, $1,890. Golden Can: Sept. 16, 2nd race, $2,880. Golden Lassie: Sept. 4, 9th race, $340. Hello Beautiful: Sept. 18, 4th race, $3,000. I'm Gittin There: Sept. 3, 1st race, $2,340. Ladneedsahandler: Sept. 19, 4th race, $1,500. Margie's Heaven: Sept. 16, 9th race, $1,040. Misty's Banshee: Sept. 23, 5th race, $2,340. Sally's Mustang: Sept. 11, 4th race, $320; Sept. 30, 9th race, $640): Golden Lad Syndicate—$18,010.

Great Notion (Americas Woman: Sept. 12, 1st race, $500; Sept. 26, 5th race, $250. Epic Idea: Sept. 30, 5th race, $400. Francis X.: Sept. 26, 4th race, $250. Great Idea: Sept. 25, 6th race, $2,340. He's a Shooter: Sept. 4, 1st race, $1,890; Sept. 23, 8th race, $1,920. Italian Dressing: Sept. 3, 7th race, $480. Luna Belle: Sept. 18, 10th race, $480. Mattitude: Sept. 4, 5th race, $780. Notion Interruptus: Sept. 12, 4th race, $1,260; Sept. 23, 4th race, $170. Rapid Response: Sept. 23, 7th race, $690. Rock the Boat: Sept. 18, 11th race, $400. Watch Me Disappear: Sept. 30, 1st race, $390): Great Notion Syndicate—$12,200.

Hangover Kid (Pounding Music: Sept. 23, 5th race, $390): Hangover Kid Syndicate.

Holy Boss (Jardani: Sept. 18, 7th race, $460): Holy Boss Syndicate.

Imagining (Claire's Darling: Sept. 10, 1st race, $1,560. Da Money: Sept. 17, 3rd race, $390. Lady Fox: Sept. 11, 3rd race, $480): Imagining Syndicate—$2,430.

Madefromlucky (All for Love: Sept. 4, 7th race, $630): Madefromlucky Syndicate.

Mosler (Crack the Safe: Sept. 19, 1st race, $250. Depository: Sept. 16, 8th race, $800. Dontcrossfuzzy: Sept. 16, 5th race, $500. Ghost Maiden: Sept. 5, 3rd race, $920; Sept. 23, 5th race, $780. Miranda's Desmond: Sept. 12, 8th race, $2,340. Moonsafe: Sept. 3, 7th race, $960; Sept. 12, 7th race, $960. Mose Definitely: Sept. 3, 6th race, $210. Mosler's Image: Sept. 9, 5th race, $520. Natty Beau: Sept. 16, 7th race, $1,020. Pepe and Heywood: Sept. 25, 10th race, $340. Raven Rahy: Sept. 5, 1st race, $150. Whatchasaid: Sept. 17, 3rd race, $2,340): Country Life Farm, Adele Dilschneider and Seth Hancock—$12,090.

Nicanor (Ran Char: Sept. 4, 4th race, $690): Nicanor Syndicate.

Norumbega (Nordic Rhythm: Sept. 25, 6th race, $390): Bonita Farm and Stuart Janney III LLC.

Outflanker (Benny Havens: Sept. 16, 8th race, $400. Crouchelli: Sept. 3, 8th race, $3,120): Outflanker Syndicate—$3,520.

Petionville (Ms. Haiti: Sept. 3, 4th race, $1,020. Pet's Night: Sept. 25, 10th race, $170. Raeford: Sept. 5, 1st race, $900. Royalian: Sept. 10, 2nd race, $210): Everest Stables Inc.—$2,300.00

Plan (Polished Gal: Sept. 30, 5th race, $2,400): Stronach Group LP.

Seville (GER) (Amplio Esquema: Sept. 30, 9th race, $320. Bullets Lady: Sept. 17, 4th race, $500. I Love You: Sept. 11, 7th race, $2,880. Left Blank: Sept. 9, 2nd race, $315. Polish Cookie: Sept. 5, 3rd race, $460. Seville Row: Sept. 17, 2nd race, $500. Sky's Not Falling: Sept. 18, 11th race, $2,400): Seville Syndicate—$7,375.

Street Magician (By the Sey Shore: Sept. 26, 7th race, $480. Magical Luna: Sept. 3, 3rd race, $480. Something Magical: Sept. 11, 5th race, $240): R. Larry Johnson—$1,200.

Super Ninety Nine (Billingsgate: Sept. 11, 2nd race, $1,890; Sept. 23, 1st race, $320. Sebastian: Sept. 23, 8th race, $320. Some Is Nine: Sept. 4, 5th race, $390. Super Houdini: Sept. 4, 1st race, $315): Country Life Farm—$3,235.

## Maryland's leading sires

*Based on 2021 earnings through Dec. 20. † denotes freshman sire.*

### Earnings in 2021

| | Strs | Wnrs | Leading Earner | Earnings |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Great Notion | 103 | 61 | Grateful Bred ($144,200) | $3,563,146 |
| Golden Lad | 72 | 44 | Hello Beautiful ($267,710) | 2,496,824 |
| Bandbox | 58 | 32 | Leader of the Band ($284,700) | 2,112,041 |
| Mosler | 63 | 35 | Fool Yourself ($118,642) | 1,742,869 |
| Uncle Lino | 57 | 34 | Marvalous Mike ($152,060) | 1,735,231 |
| Bourbon Courage | 64 | 33 | Courageous Girl ($123,270) | 1,697,013 |
| Imagining | 63 | 29 | Claire's Darling ($93,854) | 1,325,617 |
| Seville (Ger) | 69 | 25 | Sky's Not Falling ($119,694) | 1,284,514 |
| Friesan Fire | 64 | 30 | Whiskey and You ($99,056) | 1,240,785 |
| Super Ninety Nine | 52 | 27 | Hemp ($99,148) | 1,219,464 |
| Buffum | 33 | 16 | Malibu Beauty ($208,188) | 1,032,415 |
| Orientate | 46 | 23 | Your Pal ($83,035) | 992,841 |
| Street Magician | 44 | 14 | Street Lute ($276,040) | 988,166 |
| †Divining Rod | 41 | 16 | Local Motive ($164,160) | 820,299 |
| Petionville | 27 | 15 | Maldives Model ($107,584) | 621,679 |
| Not For Love | 23 | 10 | Torch of Truth ($96,985) | 581,232 |
| †Holy Boss | 18 | 6 | Vance Scholars ($70,530) | 346,699 |
| Outflanker | 11 | 6 | Crouchelli ($87,517) | 320,139 |

### 2-year-old earnings in 2021

| | Strs | Wnrs | Leading Earner | Earnings |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| †Divining Rod | 41 | 16 | Local Motive ($164,160) | $820,299 |
| Great Notion | 18 | 9 | Witty ($144,000) | 648,955 |
| Uncle Lino | 20 | 9 | Uncle Buddy ($76,672) | 442,022 |
| †Holy Boss | 18 | 6 | Vance Scholars ($70,530) | 346,699 |
| Buffum | 10 | 4 | Buff My Boots ($118,998) | 279,272 |
| Golden Lad | 11 | 6 | I'm Gittin There ($46,978) | 221,128 |
| Mosler | 14 | 4 | Dontcrossfuzzy ($60,961) | 217,027 |
| †Madefromlucky | 14 | 3 | Epic Luck ($76,500) | 203,554 |
| Imagining | 9 | 5 | Capt. Candy ($49,925) | 153,758 |
| †Kobe's Back | 10 | 1 | Heat Merchant ($59,203) | 134,630 |
| †Blofeld | 11 | 3 | Royal Spy ($35,880) | 129,917 |
| Street Magician | 11 | 2 | Cabra Chica ($55,584) | 114,168 |

THE THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER

# Post Time

- News, views and insights that matter to breeders, owners and racing industry professionals - **January 2022** -

## *In This Issue*

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# Jersey-bred star Horologist is off to Japan

By Bill Finley

CHELSEA DURAND/COGLIANESE PHOTOS

A racing career that began with a 20¾-length win in a 2018 maiden race at Monmouth and included six stakes wins, three of them in graded company, came to an end in November when the pride of the New Jersey breeding program, Horologist, finished ninth in the Breeders' Cup Distaff at Del Mar.

But a new and exciting chapter began just a few days later. The mare, now 6, was bought by Japan's Katsumi Yoshida for $800,000 at the Keeneland November sale and will take up residence at Yoshida's Northern Farm as a broodmare. Northern Farm is the preeminent breeder in Japan, which means that Horologist

FOLLOW or LIKE **NJBREDS** on.

will be bred to one of that country's leading stallions.

After Yoshida's father, Zenya, died in 1993, his three sons each went out on their own, establishing their own farms. Northern Farm opened in 1994 and became the premier breeding farm in Japan. The farm was the leading breeder in Japan every year from 2004 through 2008 and again from 2011 through 2020.

The Yoshida brothers also operate, in partnership, Shadai Stallion Station, home to many of the top stallions in the sport, a list that includes U.S. Horse of the Year Bricks and Mortar, Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner New Year's Day and multiple Grade 1-winning sprinter Mine Your Biscuits. Northern Farm is the breeder of Loves Only You and Marche Lorraine, Japan's two winners at the Breeders' Cup.

Yoshida came to the fall breeding stock sales on a mission, intent on building up his broodmare band with pricey U.S. acquisitions. Between Keeneland November and Fasig-Tipton November, he bought eight mares for a total cost of $14.375 million. The list includes Eclipse Award winner Swiss Skydiver ($4.7 million) and Grade 1 winner Princess Noor ($2.9 million).

"We always want to buy mares from around the world so that we can always diversify our pedigree line," said Shingo Hashimoto, Northern Farm's manager of international affairs. "So this is nothing new for us, we are just doing what we always do."

In Horologist, they saw a horse that checked a number of boxes, starting, but not ending, with her racing record.

"When we saw the catalogue for Keeneland November, we noticed that Horologist would be racing in the Breeders' Cup Distaff," Hashimoto said.

"And when we saw Horologist in the paddock (at Del Mar), we were attracted by how strong she looked. When we saw her again at Keeneland, her smooth walking and the conformation that she has was something special for us, so we put her on our short list."

Co-owner Cameron Beatty said the $800,000 price tag exceeded expectations.

"When it comes to her pedigree, she doesn't really have a page," he said. "She is the pedigree. We were thinking around $600,00, $650,000, but she looked extremely good, which helped her cause. She beat a lot of really good horses over her career. That's why we think the price went up to $800,000. Given a better run in the Breeders' Cup, she would have brought closer to $1 million."

Hashimoto said it has not been decided who Horologist will be bred to, which may not happen until the last minute come next breeding season.

"We basically decide the covering plans in the morning of the breeding day depending on the stallions availability, etc.," he said.

Beatty was there at the start, when a first-time starter by Gemologist trained by the late John Mazza and bred by Holly Crest Farm burst on the scene with her 20-plus-length romp in 2018. She wouldn't win again that year but came back at three as a better horse. After she beat state breds in the Smart N Classy Handicap, she picked up her first graded win when taking down the Grade 3 Monmouth Oaks in 2019.

Beatty decided to take some money off the table and sold 75% of the filly to a group that included Medallion Racing, Abbondanza Racing, LLC and Parkland Thoroughbreds. The new owners transferred Horologist to California-based trainer Richie Baltas, who failed to win a race with her in five tries.

Horologist was then brought back to the East and turned over to Bill Mott, a move that rejuvenated her career. For Mott, in 2020, she won the Grade 3 Molly Pitcher and the Grade 2 Beldame and finished third in the Grade 1 La Troienne. The owners supplemented her to the 2020 Breeders' Cup Distaff, where she finished ninth.

As a 5-year-old, she won the Top Flight Invitational and the Summer Colony Stakes before finishing second in the Beldame. She finished her career with a record of nine wins from 27 starts and earnings of $962,939.

"There's nothing else like it," Beatty said. "She definitely took me for the ride of a lifetime. She owed me nothing so her not running well in the Breeders' Cup meant absolutely nothing. She came back healthy, which is all that mattered. She looked amazing at the sale and she'll be in good hands with the Japanese. She was something else. Now it's time to find another one."

# Thoroughbred racing in New Jersey will get a nine-date boost in 2022.

The New Jersey Racing Commission (NJRC) Nov. 17 unanimously approved 60 dates at Monmouth Park (May 7-Sept. 17) and 11 dates of turf-only racing at the Meadowlands (Sept. 23-Oct. 29).

That total of 71 overall dates represents an increase of seven programs at Monmouth and two at the Meadowlands compared to what had been granted for 2021.

# Pickin' Time earns win in City of Laurel Stakes

Roseland Farm Stable's graded stakes winner Pickin' Time swept to the lead on the outside around the far turn and had plenty left to turn back a bid from He'smyhoneybadger nearing the wire for a 1¼-length victory in the $100,000 City of Laurel for 3-year-old at Laurel Park Nov. 27.

Ridden by Mychel Sanchez for trainer Kelly J. Breen, Pickin' Time earned his fourth career stakes win and first in open company since the 2020 Nashua (G3) a year earlier at Aqueduct. Most recently, he won the New Jersey Breeders Handicap Aug. 29.

Breaking outside all but one horse in the field of eight, Pickin' Time was positioned third while in the clear behind multiple stakes-placed pacesetter Awesome Gerry, who led through a quarter-mile in 23.28 seconds pressed by 31-1 long shot Three Two Zone. Three Two Zone assumed the lead after a half in :46.60 with Pickin' Time poised to pounce.

JIM MCCUE

"He gave me a pretty good feeling from the beginning. I think the team did a great job getting him ready for the race," Sanchez said. "He was pretty easy. He broke really well. I had a good position. I didn't have to use him in the beginning, so I pretty much saved ground the whole way and when I asked him to go, he really took off."

Pickin' Time rolled past Three Two Zone once straightened for home and powered through the stretch while He'smyhoneybadger, who beat Pickin' Time in the Oct. 23 Perryville at Churchill Downs, came with a belated run. It was 3 lengths back to Three Two Zone, who was three-quarters of a length better than Awesome Gerry in fourth.

"I guess my horse was ready to go today," Sanchez said. "It seems like he does better when he gets early position clear. The last couple times he was kind of in between horses [when] he broke a little poorly. I think the post position helped me today."

The son of Stay Thirsty out of Born to Royalty, by King of Kings (Ire) was bred in New Jersey by John Bowers Jr. Pickin' Time won for the fifth time in 13 starts and increased his earnings to $434,325.

# Equine Science Center at Rutgers University awards Gold Medal Horse Farm

The 2021 winner of the Gold Medal Horse Farm award is Topline Farm located in Alexandria Township, N.J. The award, part of the New Jersey Equine Environmental Stewardship Program, gives recognition to outstanding equine farms for their dedication to environmental sustainability and management.

Topline Farm is currently home to 8 horses, an 80' by 180' indoor riding arena, 9 grazing paddocks with available shelter

and water, in addition to well-managed cool-season pastures. When not turned out for grazing, horses are housed in a barn with eight stalls. The farm specializes in boarding, training, teaching, and having fun. Their emphasis is on top-quality care for horses, safe horsemanship, and riding, and creating a friendly, low-key but professional farm that people want to visit. Trail riding is available on the property and nearby. Cross country jumps are located around the property.

Topline provides a good example of exceptional equine environmental management. Manure and bedding are removed daily from horse stalls and stored on an impervious pad surrounded by berms and vegetation. All manure is removed from the farm every 90 days to a local crop farm. The manure storage is located at least 1,000 feet from any surface waters. Pastures are soil tested regularly and managed to result in optimum cool-season grass growth. The number of paddocks allows Topline to rotate animals and maintain quality pastures. Both the stall barn and the arena are equipped with roof gutters and French drains that allow the capture of all water in septic systems that are pumped out regularly.

"On behalf of everyone at Topline Farm we are honored to be receiving the Gold Medal Award for equine environmental stewardship," said owner and manager Katie Wigness. "It is our goal to continue appropriate pasture management, and manure and barnyard management practices for equine farms in New Jersey."

For more information about the Equine Science Center, call 848-932-9419 or visit esc.rutgers.edu. Farm owners interested in applying for next year's award may access the application at: https://go.rutgers.edu/ESC-GMHF. Applications are due by June 15, 2022.

# Top New Jersey-breds at 2021 Monmouth Park Meet

The following is the corrected list of the top 10 highest earning New Jersey-breds during the 52-day Monmouth Park meet from May 28-September 26. Earnings are calculated for 1st-4th place finishes.

| *Horse* | *Breeder* | *Earnings* |
|---|---|---|
| Alta Velocita | Law Legacy Stables | $179,340.00 |
| Golden Brown | Esther de Jong | $144,000.00 |
| Speaking | Holly Crest Farm | $118,125.00 |
| Amatteroftime | New Farm | $111,281.25 |
| Pickin' Time | John Bowers Jr. | $110,000.00 |
| Postino's Vow | Law Legacy Stables | $105,000.00 |
| Groovy Surprise | Hope Haskell Jones | $103,500.00 |
| Roselba | Colonial Farms | $102,581.25 |
| Princess Georgia | Reeve Schley III | $101,250.00 |
| No Bull Jack | Holly Crest Farm | $98,675.00 |

# North Carolina

THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

January 2022



North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

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Fayetteville, NC 28302



**Rebecca Montaldo,** *president*

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## President's message

Hello. I hope your New Year is going well and your foals are springing out healthy. Despite the cold weather, this is a fun time of year when all the cuteness of foals abounds.

Wow! Did you notice that Boss Man broke the track record in his race at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, Ga.? The 11-year-old gelding triumphs once again. Good going, Boss Man. Bill and Carrington Price must be very proud.

I am hoping that Beth Muirhead-bred Tough to Tame keeps earning Kentucky Derby points. At the time of this writing, he is number 10 on the leaderboard. Let Derby Fever commence!

Congratulations Nancy Shuford, Bill Thompson, Jr., Clint and Carol Lowry, Beth Muirhead and Bill and Carrington Price for your horses' wins. Kudos to all who have horses racing or in training.

I hope you all have renewed your memberships. Let's keep our organization going. Thank you for all your support.

*/Rebecca*

## North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM

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PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **N.C.T.A.**
MAIL WITH COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: **Rebecca Montaldo, NCTA, P.O. Box 76., Fayetteville NC 28302**

*Thank you for your support.*

## Winner's Circle Racing Review

**GOSPEL WAY** (Brody's Cause out of Bible Belt, by Pulpit) won at Woodbine Oct. 28 in the eighth race for breeder and owner Bill Thompson, Jr. The 3-year-old dark brown gelding set the pace from the starting gate to the wire. He ran 1 1/16 miles in 1:43.64 on an all-weather track (originally scheduled to run on the turf) winning by 5 lengths.

**BOSS MAN** (English Channel out of Jenny Joy, by Acceptable) won at Pine Mountain-Callaway Garden running over hurdles Nov. 6 in Race 2 for owners Bill and Carrington Price – Carrington Holdings. The 11-year-old chestnut gelding took command and set the pace from the start until briefing giving way going uphill heading to the last jump. Coming around the final turn, this experienced campaigner dueled for the lead down the stretch, gaining control again to win by a half-length after running 2⅜ miles in 4:12.20, a new course record.

**HOSTILE PRINCESS** (Outwork out of Why Lucy Why, by Whywhywhy) won at Churchill Downs Nov. 11 in Race 3 for

NORTH CAROLINA
THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

YOUR NAME OR FARM NAME_____

**HORSES IN TRAINING - 2022**

Please list the horses you have BRED or OWN that are in training or racing. The Association will put them into our stable on Daily Racing Form. We will keep up with them thru this medium and have news for the association and for the Mid-Atlantic. We will only use horses that finish in the money.

I hope this will allows us to know what our members are doing on the racing front and keep everyone informed about your successes.

The breeding I will still have to trust you to keep us informed. I love receiving news on how the horses are doing and who you are breeding to, and how you did at the sales. I do know it is hard to find the time to sit down and send me this information, BUT PLEASE TRY.

**Please take the time to fill this out for your racing stock. Please list all horses even the ones I already have so I can keep our stable updated. Use another page if need more room.**

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HORSE'S NAME_____ DAM_____DOB____ ☐☐☐

HORSE'S NAME_____DAM_____DOB____ ☐☐☐

HORSE'S NAME_____DAM_____DOB____ ☐☐☐

HORSE'S NAME_____DAM_____DOB____ ☐☐☐

HORSE'S NAME_____DAM_____DOB____ ☐☐☐

Mail to: Rebecca Montaldo
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Or send via E-mail at:
ncthoroughbred@gmail.com

# Racing Review *continued*

breeder Nancy Shuford. The 3-year-old bay filly ran 1⅟₁₆ miles in the rain over a sloppy track in 1:48.59. Pushing the pace setter on the outside, battled for the lead on the backstretch and through the far turn, drew clear down the homestretch to win by a half-length.

**FLAT OUT FLYING** (Flat Out out of She'sa Tough Tiger by Tiger Ridge) won at Parx Racing Nov. 17 in Race 9 for breeders Beth Muirhead and Frank Coniglio. The 5-year-old chestnut gelding continues his winning ways by capturing four of his last five racing and coming in second in the one not won. Stumbling at the start, running near the back of the pack, advancing around the final turn, quickened down the stretch to pull away to win by six lengths after running 1⅟₁₆ miles in 1:43.80.

**HENRY STANDINGBEAR** (Atreides out of Indiancreek Maggie, by Roanoke) won at Charles Town Nov. 17 in Race 2 for breeders Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowry. The 4-year-old dark brown gelding was bumped at the start, settled out the back of the pack near the rail, started advancing leaving the five-sixteenth pole, went to the outside after the turn, surge to the front in the final stride to win by a head, running 4½ furlongs in :53.92.

**NOBLE EL SID** (Mr. Sidney out of Allegheny Red, by Roanoke) won at Charles Town Nov. 18 in Race 1 for breeders Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowry. The 3-year-old bay gelding ran 6½ furlongs in 1:24.02. The gelding stalked the pace inside, advanced toward the seven-sixteenth pole, drew even at the head of the stretch, dueled, and dug in heading home, determined to win by a nod at the wire.

# Hitting the Board

**October 25 – November 24, 2021**

| Date | Horse | Track | NCTA Connection | RESULTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **29-Oct** | **Royal Wedding** | **Woodbine $100K Eternal Search S.** | **Owned by Bill Thompson - Maple Lane Farm** | 2nd |
| 3-Nov | Henry Standingbear | Charles Town | Bred by Clint Lowry | 3rd |
| 3-Nov | Hellcat Warrior | Mountaineer Park | Bred by Nancy Shuford | 2nd |
| 5-Nov | Rockstar Romeo | Penn National | Bred by Beth Muirhead | **WINNER!** |
| 6-Nov | Gospel Way | Woodbine | Bred & owned by Bill Thompson - Maple Lane Farm | 3rd |
| 6-Nov | Boss Man | Pine Mtn-Calloway Garden Hurdles | Owned by Bill & Carrington Price | **WINNER!** |
| 9-Nov | Sag Harbor | Indiana Grand | Bred by Nancy Shuford | 2nd |
| 11-Nov | Hostile Princess | Churchill Downs | Bred by Nancy Shuford | **WINNER!** |
| 17-Nov | Flat Out Flying | Parx Racing | Bred by Beth Muirhead & Frank Coniglio | **WINNER!** |
| 17-Nov | Henry Standingbear | Charles Town | Bred by Clint Lowry | **WINNER!** |
| 18-Nov | Noble El Sid | Charles Town | Bred & owned by Clint Lowry | **WINNER!** |

PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

# PA Thoroughbred NEWSLETTER

January 2022
pabred.com

## PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:** Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:** Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:** Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:** Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

## VISIT PABRED.COM

- **Racing and breeding news**
- **PA-Bred entries/results**
- **Rules, regulations, forms**

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# Wicked Strong stays in Pennsylvania

by Emily Shields

"Nothing has moved the needle to warrant bringing him back to Kentucky," Mark Toothaker said. "We felt like the best fit at present time is to remain in Pennsylvania."

Just like that, leading stallion Wicked Strong is going to remain in Pennsylvania for 2022. Wicked Strong, an 11-year-old son of Hard Spun—Moyne Abbey, by Charismatic, relocated to Dr. William Solomon's Pin Oak Lane Farm a year ago, and has quickly made waves in the area. He is the leading Mid-Atlantic sire with 83 winners, and progeny earnings of more than $3.8 million.

"He's been well supported," Dr. Solomon said. "He came in with a significant number of yearlings and 2-year-olds, and produces consistent winners, far more winners than anyone else in the region. He's a beautifully-conformed horse, balanced, and was a good racehorse. All of those things combined make him very attractive."

A $375,000 yearling purchase by Centennial Farms at the 2012 Keeneland September Yearling Sale, Wicked Strong ultimately earned $1,994,460. His sire, Grade 1 winner Hard Spun, was a classy and consistent racehorse with graded stakes wins from seven to nine furlongs and a second-place effort in the Kentucky Derby-G1, Breeders' Cup Classic-G1 and Haskell-G1 to his credit. Dam Moyne Abbey was a winner at Gulfstream Park in 2005, and Wicked Strong offered plenty with physical and pedigree combined to justify the price tag.

He broke his maiden second out at Belmont Park, then placed in the Grade 2 Remsen Stakes to signal his participation on the Kentucky Derby trail. Wicked Strong was

## Wicked Strong continued from page 1

9-1 when he upset the Grade 1 Wood Memorial at Aqueduct by 3½ lengths under Rajiv Maragh, then ran very well to be fourth in the Kentucky Derby after stumbling out of the gate and facing traffic trouble.

Wicked Strong was also fourth in the Belmont Stakes, dead heating with California Chrome in that runner's Triple Crown attempt. Just one start later, Wicked Strong defeated Belmont winner Tonalist in the Grade 2 Jim Dandy, a $600,000 contest at Saratoga. He was second, beaten just a nose, in the $1.25 million Travers Stakes-G1 before his sophomore season ended when he lost his rider after clipping heels in the Jockey Club Gold Cup-G1. Wicked Strong didn't win again, but continued to compete successfully at the highest level. He was third in the Grade 1 Woodward and second in the Jockey Club Gold Cup before running fourth in the Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile at Keeneland. He retired with three wins, four seconds, and three thirds in 19 starts.

Wicked Strong entered stud at Spendthrift Farm and has seen success, with 121 winners to date including six stakes winners and nearly a dozen stakes placers. His daughter Evil Lyn, out of the Mr. Greeley mare Miss Relentless, won the 2021 Lady Canterbury Stakes after taking the Hilltop Stakes at Pimlico in 2020. Son Brooklyn Strong did his sire one better when winning the Grade 2 Remsen last year after first taking the Sleepy Hollow Stakes. Por Que No won the Boiling Springs Stakes on the grass at Monmouth Park over the summer, and Wicked Runner is a three-time stakes winner in Puerto Rico. Wicked Strong's daughter Jilted Bride was graded stakes-placed at Belmont Park last year.

The decision was then made to move him from Spendthrift to Pin Oak Lane. Spendthrift's sales manager Mark Toothaker helped broker the deal. "He's an outstanding option for Mid-Atlantic breeders with a regional mare," Toothaker said.

"If you take a horse like that, who hasn't produced what is considered enough stakes winners, then move him to a place like Pennsylvania, you can hope that he blossoms further," Dr. Solomon said. "The rest is history. He gets a lot of good runners, there's no question about that."

Wicked Strong is likely to remain in the Keystone State for the foreseeable future. "You always have the option to take him back if you have to, but I don't think that is going to happen," Dr. Solomon said. "If he doesn't keep his position in Pennsylvania he could go back, but if he does then I don't think there would be a reason to leave."

Nationally, Wicked Strong is a top-10 third-crop sire on the progeny earnings list and is ranked fourth by number of winners, ahead of Liam's Map, Carpe Diem, Tonalist and Honor Code. His other stakes runners include winners Wicked Warrior and Wicked Empire and stakes-placed Secretly Wicked, Microcap, Inawic, Shooger Ray Too, Strong Rules, Myawaya, Wicked Slider, Smart N Wicked, and 2021 juvenile Simply Wicked.

He stands for just $3,500.

## A few words from the Executive Secretary

2021 was another great year for the Pennsylvania Breeding Program and I look forward to 2022. Thanks to our PA horsemen, we'll give out almost $25 million in awards, bonuses, Stakes and restricted races. We've returned to some state of normalcy and mares have arrived to get ready to foal in the new year, and we've been back at the track in person to cheer on our PA-Breds.

The last two 2021 PA-Bred Stakes for 2-year-olds at Penn and PARX were a big success. Big fields and great entries. Congrats to the $200,000 Shamrock Rose winner Disco Ebo, bred by St Omer's Farm and the $200,000 Nursery winner Witty, bred by Elizabeth Merryman and all their connections.

Our 12th Annual Stallion Season Auction begins January 15 and ends January 21 on thoroughlybred.com. You'll be able to bid on PA-Sires or sires from all over the country. Visit pabred.com for a list of available seasons, and check back daily as new seasons will continue to be added. Be sure to register at thoroughlybred.com before bidding.

Remember, if you purchase a mare in foal at a public auction after Dec. 1, 2021, she must be brought into the state within 14 days of purchase through foaling (60 days if purchased at an overseas sale). During the foaling year the foal or its dam must spend at least 90 days in the state in order for that foal to be eligible to become a registered PA-Bred. You can also bring in your mare anytime, stay 60 consecutive days through foaling and breed back to a PA-Sire.

Our Stallion Directory was mailed to all breeders and you can view the interactive version at pabred.com. It couldn't be easier. Purchase a mare in foal at Keeneland January, bring her to PA, stay for 60 days through foaling, find a PA-Sire in our online directory and go to our Stallion Auction at thoroughlybred.com in January to purchase that season. Your PA-Sired PA-Bred will be eligible for up to 50% in Breeder Awards!! Wow!

Here's to a fantastic 2022! Go PA!!

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THROUGH
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# PA-Bred Fund Statistics: Top Earners

January 1 through October 31, 2021

## LEADING EARNERS - TOTAL AWARDS

| Breeder Name | Breeder | Stallion | Total | Breeder Name | Breeder | Stallion | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 0 | 335,881 | 335,881 | Fantasy Lane Stable Inc. | 83,110 | 24,669 | 107,779 |
| Glenn E. Brok LLC | 193,202 | 86,922 | 280,124 | Luana J. Johnson | 85,069 | 20,097 | 105,165 |
| William J. Solomon VMD | 145,760 | 86,760 | 232,520 | S.W. Young Racing dba A1A Racing | 75,044 | 26,394 | 101,438 |
| Blackstone Farm LLC | 226,994 | 156 | 227,150 | Richard Simoff | 101,018 | 0 | 101,018 |
| Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC | 168,623 | 40,712 | 209,335 | Godstone Farm LLC | 97,244 | 0 | 97,244 |
| Arrowwood Farm Inc. | 201,140 | 0 | 201,140 | Angelo Zalalas | 89,629 | 0 | 89,629 |
| Wyn Oaks Farm LLC | 42,332 | 125,420 | 167,752 | Thomas G. McClay | 86,975 | 0 | 86,975 |
| Sylmar Farm Inc. | 135,218 | 0 | 135,218 | St. Omer's Farm | 85,372 | 0 | 85,372 |
| Pewter Stable | 96,432 | 30,222 | 126,655 | Mark Brown Grier | 84,034 | 0 | 84,034 |
| Patricia L. Chapman | 76,209 | 43,775 | 119,983 | Robert C. Roffey Jr. | 80,504 | 0 | 80,504 |
| Susan C. Quick | 119,276 | 0 | 119,276 | Richard N. Miller | 66,034 | 13,744 | 79,778 |
| Barlar LLC | 108,861 | 4,977 | 113,839 | Nick J. Polydoros | 78,214 | 0 | 78,214 |

## LEADING STALLIONS

Fund Money includes Stallion Awards only

| Stallion Name | Stallion Owner / Manager | No. of Races | Award Total | Stallion Name | Stallion Owner / Manager | No. of Races | Award Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jump Start | Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 468 | 160,827 | Bullsbay | Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 65 | 21,119 |
| Weigelia | Wyn Oaks Farm LLC | 227 | 125,420 | Mad Flatter | Glenn E. Brok LLC | 93 | 20,876 |
| El Padrino | Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 187 | 80,038 | Golddigger's Boy | Luana J. Johnson | 55 | 20,097 |
| Uptowncharlybrown | Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC | 136 | 65,381 | Emperor Tiberius | Richard N. Miller | 68 | 16,077 |
| Talent Search | Glenn E. Brok LLC | 149 | 64,148 | Silver Train | Henry R. Nothhaft | 49 | 13,803 |
| Uncle Lino | Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 96 | 57,392 | Lord Shanakill | William J. Solomon VMD | 69 | 13,509 |
| Smarty Jones | Patricia L. Chapman | 101 | 43,775 | Cat Thief | Michael W. Jester | 28 | 12,157 |
| Albert the Great | William J. Solomon VMD | 123 | 34,504 | Messner | Donald L. Brown Jr. | 23 | 10,945 |
| Well Spelled | Godstone Farm LP | 100 | 32,539 | Il Villano | Chuck Russo | 32 | 9,673 |
| Winchill | Pewter Stable | 30 | 27,761 | Red Vine | DB Dojo LLC | 14 | 8,983 |
| Last Gunfighter | William J. Solomon VMD | 89 | 26,989 | Flashy Bull | James E. Hess | 8 | 8,675 |
| Peace And Justice | S.W. Young Racing dba A1A Racing | 60 | 26,394 | Medallist | Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 31 | 8,446 |

## LEADING HORSES

Fund Money includes: PA-Bred Races, Breeder and Stallion Awards and PA-Bred Owner-Bonus Payments

| Horse | Pedigree | Breeder | Races | Restricted Stakes | Breeder Award | Stallion Award | Bonus | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beren * | Weigelia - Silmaril | Susan C. Quick | 7 | 118,200 | 119,276 | 28,699 | 22,640 | 288,815 |
| Wait for It * | Uptowncharlybrown - Kimberley Diamond | Fantasy Lane Stable Inc. | 5 | 157,380 | 81,790 | 20,448 | 3,600 | 263,218 |
| Chub Wagon | Hey Chub - Takin the Plunge | Joe-Dan Farm Inc. | 5 | 190,200 | 54,240 | 0 | 0 | 244,440 |
| You Must Chill * | Winchill - Only Me | Mark Brown Grier | 5 | 109,500 | 84,034 | 21,009 | 14,400 | 228,943 |
| Admiral Abe | Midshipman - Precious Penny | James Walker | 8 | 59,400 | 53,894 | 0 | 50,592 | 163,886 |
| Just One Time | Not This Time - Ida Clark | Warriors Reward | 4 | 117,600 | 32,292 | 0 | 3,360 | 153,252 |
| Ninetypercentbrynn * | Weigelia - Amblin Easy | LC Racing LLC | 10 | 17,160 | 62,654 | 13,666 | 32,560 | 126,040 |
| Precious | Fed Biz - Brilliant Sunshine | Newell Thoroughbreds Ltd. | 6 | 87,400 | 28,304 | 0 | 9,600 | 125,304 |
| Trolley Ride * | Flashy Bull - Proudly Irish | Sandra Kim Eshleman | 4 | 81,280 | 34,700 | 8,675 | 0 | 124,655 |
| Marvalous Mike * | Uncle Lino - Restless Summer | Robert C. Roffey Jr. | 8 | 19,600 | 64,600 | 14,986 | 22,160 | 121,346 |
| Li'lbito'charm * | Smarty Jones - Li'lbito'sunshine | Nick J. Polydoros | 13 | 0 | 67,042 | 16,760 | 30,744 | 114,546 |
| Hey Mamaluke * | Jump Start - Pu Dew | Joseph T. Capriglione | 2 | 62,160 | 29,100 | 7,275 | 0 | 98,535 |
| Don't Call Me Mary * | El Padrino - Monette | Richard Simoff | 1 | 59,400 | 29,700 | 7,425 | 0 | 96,525 |
| Fortheluvofbourbon | Bourbon Courage - Nosubstituteforluv | Hidden Acres 4D Farm LLC | 5 | 56,400 | 22,102 | 0 | 15,460 | 93,962 |
| Champion by Design * | Jump Start - More Than This | Stephen M. Hayes | 2 | 57,600 | 28,800 | 7,200 | 0 | 93,600 |
| Vault * | Jump Start - Di's Delight | Barlar LLC | 2 | 57,000 | 28,500 | 7,125 | 0 | 92,625 |
| Ravens Delight | Great Notion - Darn That Raven | Sylmar Farm Inc. | 6 | 69,090 | 20,261 | 0 | 1,156 | 90,507 |
| I Am Redeemed | Redeemed - One Smart Philly | Lawrence Anthony Rebbecchi Jr. | 5 | 58,200 | 23,460 | 0 | 3,600 | 85,260 |
| Prince of Rain * | El Padrino - Cimarron Rain | Angelo Zalalas | 9 | 9,400 | 47,788 | 11,459 | 16,032 | 84,679 |
| Confirmed Genius * | Weigelia - Cryptic Kate | Lynda Furlong | 7 | 0 | 45,777 | 10,775 | 19,644 | 76,196 |
| Inspired Options * | Bullsbay - Spunky Sparrow | Cynthia M. Bartkowski | 11 | 0 | 43,191 | 10,037 | 21,608 | 74,836 |
| Darcy Mae | K One King - Krista's Quik Chic | Gunpowder Farms LLC | 4 | 59,400 | 12,764 | 0 | 1,020 | 73,184 |
| Vine Jet * | Red Vine - Our Girl Friday | E. Marie Morrison | 3 | 0 | 43,175 | 8,635 | 19,200 | 71,010 |
| You Look Cold | Frosted - Lucky Draw | Blackstone Farm LLC | 1 | 58,800 | 11,760 | 0 | 0 | 70,560 |

*Denotes PA-sired

# Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

December 2021

## PARX Around the Ovals

November 28th - Parx racing was well represented at Aqueduct in the $200,000 Gr. 3 Fall Heavyweight Handicap. Kentucky-bred *Hopeful Treasure* (*Oxbow - Elle Special*, by *Giant's Causeway*) and jockey **Mychel Sanchez** won for owner **Just In Time Racing, LLC**, giving trainer **Michael Catalano Jr.** his first graded stakes win.

November 27th - *Three Two Zone* (*Street Sense - Star Rating(IRE)*, by *Dansili(GB)* )ran third in the $100,000 City of Laurel Stakes with jockey **Jeremy Laprida** for trainer **Marya Montoya** and owner **Alonzo Racing, LLC** at Laurel Park.

November 26th - Two trainers from Parx took on other rivals at Penn National in the $200,000 Shamrock Rose Stakes for PA-Breds. PA-Bred *Disco Ebo (Weigelia - Katarica Disco*, by *Disco Rico*) went wire to wire to get her 3rd straight win with jockey **Jomar Torres** aboard for trainer **Robert Reid, Jr.** and owners **Cash is King LLC** and **LC Racing LLC**. *Burano* (*Uncle Lino - Catsuit*, by *Sir Cat*) finished a strong second with jockey **Nik Juarez** for trainer **John Servis** and owner **S.M.D. Ltd.**

November 22nd - *Beren* (*Weigelia - Silmaril*, by *Diamond*) ran second at in the Steel Valley Sprint Stakes with jockey **Frankie Pennington** at Mahoning Valley Race Course for trainer **Robert Reid, Jr.** and owner/breeder **St. Omer's Farm** and **Christopher Feifarek**.

*Disco Ebo #8 with Jomar Torres riding won the $200,000 Shamrock Rose Stakes at Penn National Racecourse on Friday November 26, 2021.*
*Photo By Bill Denver/EQUI-PHOTO*

LET'S GO RACING TV SHOW

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## PTHA Trophy Race Winners

| Date | Horse | Jockey | Trainer | Owner |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11-3-2021 | Wendy's Fine Wine | Abner Adorno | Daniel Velazquez | JKX Racing |
| 11-10-2021 | Commissioner G | Paco Lopez | Steve Klesaris | Dig That Mine LLC |
| 11-17-2021 | Indian Counselor | Ruben Silvera | Jamie Ness | Jagger Inc. |
| 11-24-2021 | Can't Stop This Man | Edwin Rivera | Daniel Velazquez | Longball Stables LLC |

# PTHA Peeks

November 1st - PA-Bred *Fleeterthan* (*Flatter - Shadow of Storm*, by *Storm Cat*) & 7 lb. apprentice jockey **Andy Hernandez** won the opener at Parx Racing for owner **Hardesty Stables** and giving trainer **Mike Moore** his first graded stakes win; trainer **Mike Moore** is 3-3 in his last starts.

November 2nd - *Ronin Warrior* & jockey **Paco Lopez** won the stretch battle to get the victory in Tuesday's $35,000 PA-Bred Allowance race for trainer **Guadalupe Preciado** & owner **Nicholas Cammarano** going 1 mile.

November 3rd - 3 year old filly *Wendy's Fine Wine* won the $16,000 Maiden Claiming **PTHA Trophy race** with jockey **Abner Adorno** for trainer **Danny Velazquez** & owner **JKX Racing**, 1 mile off the turf for the $21,000 purse.

November 8th - PA-Bred *Philadelphia Belle* & jockey **Silvestre Gonzalez** ran them off their feet to win Monday's $45,000 Allowance race going 5 1/2 furlongs for trainer **Kate DeMasti** & owner/breeder **Nick Polydoros**.

November 9th - The very promising 2-year-old gray filly *Alrashaka*, bred by **Shadwell Farm, LLC** wins impressively with jockey **Ruben Silvera** for trainer **Michael Pino** & owner **Smart Angle LLP** in Tuesday's 6th race going 6 1/2 furlongs.

November 10th - Wednesday's 1st race brought a lot

of emotion for winner Misbehaving Lady & owner **Pembroke Hall Racing** with a beautiful ride by jockey **Anthony Salgado** for trainer **Susan Crowell**.

November 15th - Back-to-back wins today for trainer **Scott Lake** with a victory in Monday's 5th & 6th races with PA-Bred *Kissin Cousin* drawing away with jockey **Ruben Silvera** in the 5th for owners **Home Team Stables** & **Five of Us Farm**. *I'm the Talent*, with a nice on the lead ride by jockey **Anthony Nunez** won the 6th for owner **Aurora Vista LLC**.

November 16th - PA-Bred *Morning Matcha* & jockey **Kendrick Carmouche** won Tuesday's 7th race in dominating fashion going 1 mile at Parx Racing for trainer **Butch Reid**, owners **Cash Is King LLC** & **LC Racing LLC**.

November 17th - *Charity Stripe* gets her 18th lifetime win after closing fast in Wednesday's race to catch the other entry for trainer **Patricia Farro** for owner **Run Fast & Win Stables LLC** with a very happy jockey **Angel Castillo**.


**Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association**

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SCTOBA

# South Carolina

## Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022

## Racing Across the Nation

Nine horses who went through the breaking process in South Carolina won stakes races between Oct. 22 and Nov. 13.

On Oct. 22, Beren captured his fifth career stakes victory proving best in the Danzig Stakes at Penn National. A product of Randy and Kala Rentz's program, Beren was second early on before taking over the lead at the quarter pole. While challenged in the stretch, Beren pulled away inside the eighth-pole to win by 2 lengths.

Rustler, who learned his early lessons at the McCutchen Training Center, broke on top and never looked back in the Carle Place Stakes at Belmont Park Oct. 22. While racing on the inside, Rustler held off some bids and crossed the finish line three-quarters of a length in front, paying $44 on a $2 bet.

Franklin "Goree" Smith had Shamrocket during the colt's formative years at his Elloree Training Center. Shamrocket obtained his first stakes victory in the Point of Entry Stakes at Belmont Park Oct. 24. Having one beat in this 1½-mile marathon early, Shamrocket challenged the leader entering the stretch and in a sustained drive, reached the finish line first by a half-length.

Shesawildjoker, who was developed into a racehorse by Travis Durr at his Webb Carroll Training Center, raced midpack during the first half of the Shesastonecoldfox Stakes at Finger Lakes Oct. 25. At the top of the stretch, this filly advanced to the next gear and quickly caught the leader. As the favorite, Shesawildjoker wasted no time drawing clear and crossed the finish line 2¼ lengths clear of the rest.

Unbridled Victory, another Elloree Training Center grad, came out of the starting gate in fifth position and soon put her head in front. She had a 3-length lead in the stretch and, while facing a late challenge, held on to win by a length in the Indiana Stallion Fillies Stakes for 2-year-old fillies at Indiana Grand Race Course Oct. 30 for her second win in three starts.

Muad'dib, who came through Robbie and Cynthia Shuler's breaking program, remained undefeated in his career when notching his ninth victory and third stakes win in the A Huevo Stakes at Charles Town Nov. 6. Racing in the middle of the pack for the first 6 furlongs, Muad'dib then launched his bid, taking control in the turn and maintaining his lead in the stretch winning by 1¾ lengths.

Buy the Best recorded her third victory in five lifetime starts, proving best in the Smart Halo Stakes for 2-year-old fillies at Laurel Park Nov. 13. Buy the Best was developed under the watchful eye of Travis Durr. A step slow out of the gate, this filly weaved her way through traffic before taking command inside the quarter pole. She crossed the finish line 3¼ lengths clear of the field. The second-place finisher, Luna Belle, also has South Carolina connections having been saddled by Goree Smith's brother, Hamilton Smith.

One more graduate of Durr's Webb Carroll Training Center, Miss Leslie, captured the Thirty Eight Go Go Stakes at Laurel Park Nov. 13. Having only one beat in this nine-horse field during the opening half-mile, Miss Leslie came five wide into the stretch. She had a "would not be denied" attitude and got up to win by a half-length.

Star of Night, another Shuler Training Center graduate, also won her ninth in a row, proving best in the My Sister Pearl Stakes at Charles Town Nov. 13. Second for the first 6 furlongs, she took command and drew clear in the stretch, coasting home a 3-length winner. This was Star of Night's sixth stakes win and the second year in a row she has captured the My Sister Pearl. In 13 career starts, she has 11 wins and two second place finishes.

## South Carolinians and the Breeders' Cup

SCTOBA members Tom and Sherrill Hall are members of the Eclipse Thoroughbreds partnership that owns Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1 winner Aloha West. Sherrill's reaction:

"How does one react to watching a horse race in California from a very comfortable chair in Anderson, South Carolina? It's really quite simple except when it isn't. This particular race was the Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) at Del Mar and this gallant 4-year old-colt was Aloha West. Being at the back of the pack in a sprint race with some of the fastest horses in the world is not for the faint-hearted, be it the horse himself or one of his owners watching from afar. Aloha West never gave up and closed ground relentlessly to score the victory by a nostril. This is a thrill of a lifetime."

Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners has an office in Aiken, S.C.

## King's Tree Trials Fun Day For All

The 25th running of the King's Tree Trials was a fun-filled day for approximately 2,600 people at the McCutchen Training Center Nov. 6. While the day may not have been picture-perfect weather wise, all made due and had a great time celebrating the horse.

Seven races were held. Five were 300-yard heats for Quarter Horses. On the Thoroughbred front, two half-mile heats took place. In a very exciting race for 2-year-olds, Walker McCutchen's Scootch and Frank Smith Sr.'s Harper's Do finished in a deadheat. In the 3-year-old Trial, Carson Ann McCutchen's Carson's Kitten proved best.

*continued*

We congratulate the McCutchen family for a job well done! We look forward to a return of the Aiken Trials and Elloree Trials next March.

## Steeplechase at Charleston

Marsha Hewitt attended the Steeplechase at Charleston and reported:

Ah, Charleston! What could be better than to be in Charleston? Attending a horse race, of course!

Thousands of enthusiastic spectators enjoyed grand sport at the Steeplechase of Charleston on a sunny Nov. 14. The five-race meet included two races for maiden 'chasers, a handicap and an allowance race, plus an apprentice race on the flat. Jack Fisher was named the year's top trainer on the National Steeplechase Association circuit, and Graham Watters was named champion jockey.

Spectators enjoyed shopping with dozens of high-end vendors, which ranged from a variety of art to leather goods, clothing, jewelry and fine crafts. While a crowd favorite was the fancy dress contest, the real stars were the horses. Excitement and cheers followed each horse over each jump, with the crowd jostling for position to see who crossed the finish line first.

The Post and Courier-sponsored race has become a fixture on the steeplechase circuit, with $75,000 in purse money and champion titles. Next year's race is set for Nov. 13, 2022.

## SOUTH CAROLINA-TRAINED WINNERS

*(Horse, Training Center, Date, Track, Type of Race)*

Reason to Soar, Kirkwood Stables, 10/20/21, Delta Downs, Allowance
Fan the Fire, Kirkwood Stables, 10/20/21, Keeneland, Maiden Special Weight
Queen Bess, McCuthchen Tng Ctr, 10/20/21, Finger Lakes, Starter Allowance
River Crossroad RVF, Shuler Stables, 10/20/21, Charles Town, Allowance
Angle of Attack, Shuler Stables, 10/20/21, Mountaineer, Allowance
Wudda U Think Now, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 10/21/21, Belmont Park, Allowance
Miss Leslie, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 10/21/21, Delaware Park, Allowance
Algebraic, McCutchen Tng Ctr, 10/21/21, Charles Town, Allowance
Nightatthemovies, Rentz Tng Ctr, 10/22/21, Penn National, Maiden Special Weight
Brittle and Yoo, Rentz Tng Ctr, 10/22/21, Santa Anita, Allowance
Marriedinshanghai, Rentz Tng Ctr, 10/22/21, Penn National, Allowance
BEREN, Rentz Tng Ctr, 10/22/21, Penn National, Danzig S.
Rustler, McCutchen Tng Ctr, 10/22/21, Belmont Park, Carle Place S.
Jolina, Aiken - Tony Mitchell, 10/23/21, Hawthorne, Allowance
Gatling Gun, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 10/24/21, Woodbine, Maiden Special Weight
SHAMROCKET, Elloree Tng Ctr, 10/24/21, Belmont Park, Point of Entry S.
SHESAWILDJOKER, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 10/25/21, Finger Lakes, Shesastonecoldfox S.
Double Vision, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 10/25/21, Finger Lakes, Allowance
Mike J, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 10/26/21, Finger Lakes, Maiden Special Weight
Bold Confection, Aiken - Cary Frommer, 10/26/21, PARX, Allowance
Harrison Knows, Rentz Tng Ctr, 10/27/21, Finger Lakes, Allowance
Beverly Park, McCutchen Tng Ctr, 10/27/21, Keeneland, Starter Allowance
Zatip, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 10/28/21, Keeneland, Maiden Special Weight
Bess, Elloree Tng Ctr, 10/28/21, Delaware Park, Starter Allowance
Buy the Best, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 10/29/21, Delaware Park, Allowance
Fleet Awesome Jenny, Elloree Tng Ctr, 10/29/21, Keeneland, Starter Allowance
Bode's Tipsey, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 10/30/21, Woodbine, Allowance
UNBRIDLED VICTORY, Elloree Tng Ctr, 10/30/21, Indiana Grand, Indiana Fillies Stallion S.
Montana Man, Elloree Tng Ctr, 10/30/21, Gulfstream Park, Allowance
Babygetsgoldoutside, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/01/21, Finger Lakes, Maiden Special Weight
Wispering Springs, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/02/21, Finger Lakes, Maiden Special Weight
Tankinator, Rentz Tng Ctr, 11/03/21, PARX, Allowance
Thegoddessofsnakes, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/03/21, PARX, Maiden Special Weight
Fitzpatrick, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/03/21, Finger Lakes, Allowance
Much Class, Aiken - Cary Frommer, 11/03/21, Delta Downs, Allowance
He's Orientate, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/04/21, Laurel Park, Allowance
Askin for Baskin, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/04/21, Laurel Park, Maiden Special Weight
Order for Porky, Custom Care-D. Freyer, 11/06/21, Laurel Park, Allowance
Market Alert, Custom Care-D. Freyer, 11/06/21, Belmont Park, Allowance
Romanski, Mason Springs, 11/06/21, Laurel Park, Maiden Special Weight
Bossman, Arch Kingsley, 11/06/21, Callaway Gardens, Allowance
Cancel This, Elloree Tng Ctr, 11/06/21, Churchill Downs, Maiden Special Weight
MUAD'DIB, Shuler Stables, 11/06/21, Charles Town, A Huevo Stakes
Juror Number Four, Aiken - Cary Frommer, 11/07/21, Laurel Park, Allowance
Tappin Royalty, Elloree Tng Ctr, 11/08/21, Mountaineer, Allowance
Allure Fortune, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/09/21, Finger Lakes, Allowance
Puttheglassdown, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/09/21, PARX, Starter Allowance
Wellington Wonder, Elloree Tng Ctr, 11/09/21, Indiana, Allowance
Reason to Soar, Kirkwood Stables, 11/10/21, Delta Downs, Allowance
Rooski, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/10/21, Finger Lakes, Maiden Special Weight
Throwing Stones, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/10/21, Finger Lakes, Allowance
Beverly Park, McCutchen Tng Ctr, 11/11/21, Churchill Downs, Allowance
Memory Bouquet, RentzTng Ctr, 11/12/21, Penn National, Allowance
Northern Spy, Rentz Tng Ctr, 11/12/21, Penn National, Maiden Special Weight
BUY THE BEST, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/13/21, Laurel Park, Smart Halo S.
Friar Laurence, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/13/21, Mahoning Valley, Maiden Special Weight
STAR OF NIGHT, Shuler Stables, 11/13/21, Charles Town, My Sister Pearl S.
MISS LESLIE, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/13/21, Laurel Park, Thirty Eight Go Go S.
Awillaway, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/13/21, Aqueduct, Allowance
Pederson's Courage, Rentz Tng Ctr, 11/14/21, Laurel Park, Maiden Special Weight
Award Wanted, Mason Springs, 11/14/21, Laurel Park, Allowance
Sofia's Secret, Aiken - Cary Frommer, 11/14/21, Laurel Park, Maiden Special Weight
Kissin Cousin, Rentz Tng Ctr, 11/15/21, PARX, Maiden Special Weight
Classy American, Rentz Tng Ctr, 11/16/21, PARX, Allowance
Cobble Road, Rentz Tng Ctr, 11/17/21, PARX, Allowance
Writer's Regret, Webb Carroll Tng Ctr, 11/17/21, Finger Lakes, Allowance

# VIRGINIA

## Virginia Racing Commission Approves Colonial Downs Expanded 2022 Meet Dates

Fresh on the heels of a record setting thoroughbred racing season in 2021, racing dates for an expanded 2022 Colonial Downs Race Meet presented by Woodford Reserve were approved December 15 at the Virginia Racing Commission (VRC) meeting which was held at the New Kent track.

The number of race days will increase from 21 to 27, and daily average purse monies will rise from $522,000 in 2021 to an expected $600,000 in 2022.

The upcoming 9-week campaign will run from July 11 - September 7.

The race day schedule will mirror the '21 slate, with racing every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 1:30 PM (EDT).

The highly successful 2021 meet featured 21 race days and an average daily betting handle of $2,240,000. A total of $10.4 million in purse monies were distributed and average field size was a healthy 8.36 starters per race.

"This is very positive news for Colonial Downs for 2022 with two extra weeks of racing, which is significant," said Jill Byrne, Colonial's VP of Racing Operations. "We're keeping our schedule the same as last year, running afternoon programs early in the week. The attitude for the time being is, if it isn't broke, don't fix it. We want to expand on finally getting our product consistent and out there in the marketplace, and to let bettors and horsemen know that Colonial Downs is back and at a very high level."

Commenting on the race day application and approval process, J. Sargeant Reynolds, Chairman of the Virginia Racing Commission, said, "When the track and horsemen can come to us together, thats 7/8ths of it, as long as they get along and what they want is reasonable. I'm very happy. All parties have done an excellent job."

Debbie Easter, Executive Director of the Virginia Thoroughbred Association, thinks Colonial Downs will benefit from the longer meet. "Besides another increase in purse money, we need the extended days and weeks to make it worthwhile for trainers from other states to move their operations here. If we run too short a meet, it's not worth it financially for them to come, so we're trying to get to that spot."

Details on the 2022 stakes schedule, including the Grade 3 Virginia Derby, will be announced in the coming weeks. Colonial Downs is home to the Secretariat Turf Course, widest grass racing surface in the country, and a 1 1/4 miles dirt oval, second longest only to Belmont's 1 1/2 miles track.

For more information, visit colonialdowns.com.

## Spring Sanctioned Steeplechase Dates Announced

The National Steepelchase Association announced dates for the three sanctioned steeplechase events that take place in the Commonwealth every spring. The Middleburg Spring Races will kick festivities off on April 23 at Glenwood Park, followed by the Foxfield Races in Charlottesville on April 30 and the Virginia Gold Cup at Great Meadow in The Plains on May 7.

A full slate of Point-to-Point meets will be announced soon via centralentryoffice.com. The season is generally held over eight consecutive weeks in March and April.

# Growth of Rosie's Gaming Emporiums Continues To Fuel Live Racing

Colonial Downs recently completed an upgrade to their Rosie's Gaming Emporium in Vinton – located just outside of Roanoke – to bring the total number of Historical Horse Racing (HHR) terminals at that site alone to 500, up from 150.

The renovations include a remodeled high limit gaming area, an exanded smoking section now with 150 games, a new stage to host local and national entertainment, and a new parking garage that can accommodate 280 vehicles. The overall space increased from 15,000 to 28,000 square feet. The Colonial Downs Group made a $28 million investment in the Vinton community with the expansion project.

John Marshall, Executive VP of Operations for the Colonial Downs Group, reported on 2021 progress at the December VRC meeting. Their fifth Rosie's Emporium opened in Dumfries in January – the first in Northern Virginia – and a mini-Rosie's concept opened in Collinsville in July. Other full sites are located in New Kent, Hampton and Richmond. Through November, total HHR handle is $2.9 billion compared with $1.4 billion in 2021 when the Covid-pandemic played a factor in growth. Projeted handle in 2022 is $3.966 billion. A total of 2686 machines are now in use throughout the state.

# Pair of Virginia-Certified Horses Kick Off December With Long Shot Wins at Aqueduct

COGLIANESE PHOTOS

Lobsta, left, won Aqueduct's New York Stallion Stakes on December 5.Lost My Sock won an $80,000 maiden special weight two days prior in New York.

The month of December kicked off in grand fashion for a pair of Virginia-Certified horses that competed in races at Aqueduct.

Lobsta, who spent his six-month Virginia residency at Woodberry Payne's Ingleside Training Center in Orange, prevailed in the $150,000 New York Stallion Stake Series December 5 after being sent off at odds of 28-1. The 3-year-old Emcee gelding was best of 11 horses in a gate-to-wire performance at 7-furlongs. The winner was ridden by Javier Castellano and is trained by Gary Sciacca. The New York-bred added to a solid 2021 resume that includes three wins, a runner-up and a pair of thirds with purse earnings of $218,600.

Kentucky-bred Lost My Sock captured an even tighter win two days earlier in a $80,000 maiden special weight for 2-year-old fillies at 6-furlongs on the outer turf course. The daughter of Tourist, who spent her Virginia residency at Madison Meyers & Kieran Norris's Ballyerin Racing at the Middleburg Training Center, beat Glitter Up by a neck after being overlooked at odds of 51-1.

The developer of each Certified winner will receive a 25% bonus award (capped at $10,000) for the wins at Aqueduct. Details on the lucrative bonus program are available at vabred.org.

**Virginia Thoroughbred Association**

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**Visit www.vabred.org–the best source for Virginia breeding and racing news**
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West Virginia
THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter January 2022

# The Great Debate: Stallion Vs Mare

Horses, like people have their own personalities and peculiarities.

When looking for the ultimate pairing, to maximize racing potential or financial gain in the sales ring, which component in the equation, stallion or mare takes precedent?

In the selection process, does one use a scientific or subjective approach to the mating configuration?

It seems especially difficult to determine, in a sport, where males and females often compete against each other as equals.

The layers to this story appear endless, so I sought out an assortment of local breeders for their qualified opinions.

Maurice Casey DVM, owner of Mares Nest Farm, located in Shenandoah Junction, was the first to chime in with his knowledgeable thoughts on the subject.

"While it takes two to tango, I personally feel the mare contributes more to the foal, than the stallion," said Casey. "There are so few stallions whose AEI (average earnings index) is greater than their CI (comparable index). The CI indicates the producing quality of the mares bred to a stallion. Examples of this anomaly are Midshipman and Quality Road. In 2020 their AEI was greater than their CI, but perennial national leading sires Tapit and Mineshaft were not. A foal spends 11-plus months in the uterus of his/her mother, followed by 6-7 months attached to her side. Everything they experience during this period is intensely shared and certifies the unification process. Good mares can be bred to most stallions and produce a runner. Many elite sires produce black-type runners in the 7 percent range. Compare that with an elite mare and the incidence of her success is much greater. A good mare can take her pick of prolific sires. I believe the time a foal spends alongside it's mother influences personality, character and desire. I don't minimize a stallions importance, but my preference is clear."

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The next contestant on the mating game is the enterprising trainer and well-respected advocate for horse aftercare programs, Diana McClure.

In conjunction with her husband Michael, the couple own and operate DMC Training Center in Berryville, Va.

"I have always subscribed to the theory, `If the stallion was a racehorse and the mare was a racehorse, you have a good shot of producing a racehorse.'

A stallion in the current market has to be successful and earn a considerable amount of money, at the races to be highly valued. So, that would lead you to believe that all thriving stallions have successful foals. However, that is not always the case.

Enter the mare into the equation. If you have a mare that was victorious at the races and has foals that are winners, then you have a proven producer and your challenge is to breed her to a sire that crosses well for your desired distance or surface.

Because stallions are bred every year to multiple mares and a mare can only produce one foal per year, it is only natural to assume that the sire contributes more to the industry than the mare. But, if a mare produces a winner every year, she obviously is working harder and longer to benefit the breed. Furthermore, the mare carries the foal to term and raises the foal for at least 4-6 months, thus her characteristics and behavior are imprinted on that individual.

There are stallions that pass on good and bad behavioral genes to their offspring, as well as tendencies of soundness and unsoundness. Patterns, traits and attributes can be established easily in stallions than mares due to the large amount of offspring a stallion produces, however if a mare producers a winner every year it validates her effort is greater than the stallions, especially if she is bred to a different stallion every year.

Another observation is that of a mare that never makes it to the races, due to injury, yet becomes a proven producer of winners, contributing a higher level of accomplishment to the foal than the stallion.

It is very rare that anyone would stand an unraced stallion, however unraced mares are bred constantly, so its natural to assume that the mare and her family have more influence on the foal."

◆

The Stehr family continues to wage a generational battle for survival in a market that has pummeled farms with considerably more assets.

Their response to adversity is to emphasize family unity, hard work and prudent judgment.

Tabitha Stehr-Wilhelm, daughter to Vicki and niece of Joe Stehr, provided me some personal keys to their survival.

"Growing up in the breeding/racing industry, it was obvious how lucrative and important to have a performing stallion. As a family unit, it was always a heated debate when a discussion ensued on future stallion prospects. Characteristics that a good stallion must possess are solid race record, money earned and lineage. It is hoped that he will pass this on to his offspring, but for me the mare holds a primary place in the formula for success. While stallions are the superstars of our business, I prefer a sturdy mare with determination, if you want all the boxes checked for what you are searching for at the racetrack. . . the winner's circle."

Tabitha enumerated that even mares past their reproductive prime can have healthy productive foals, while an aged stallion often loses his commercial value in the early teens.

Said Tabitha: "So many factors can determine success or failure. Are you breeding for speed or stamina. Are you a commercial breeder or breed to race? Your local picture may be dramatically different than nationwide. Here the need for speed is intensified by Charles Town's track size. Everyone would like to breed for quality, but economics decide many an argument. For the Stehr operation, the development program in West Virginia has been the proverbial carrot for our family-run operation, while the carding of state-bred races imperative to our continuation. In ranking, my focus is the mare first, stallion second."

◆

Sires considered good or great may produce stakes winners at a 5-7 percent rate, while I've witnessed extraordinary broodmares produce in the vicinity of 60 percent.

In this ongoing argument, I'm a mamma's boy, so I'll defer to my sensitive side, and prefer the matriarch to instill dimension and athletic prowess.

Ultimately, even with unlimited research, DNA analysis, structural and cardio measurements, Nick ratings, etc., it's a roll of the dice.


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- $800,000 in purses are allocated for up to 16 WV accredited stakes races during the year.
- Supplemental Purse Awards of up to 10% of the winner's share of the purse to the owner, breeder, and/or sire owner of the accredited WV-bred and/or -sired winner.
- West Virginia offers year-round racing with approximately 300 race days per year.



## West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association

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# She was the one you counted on

## NSA's Nancy Dougherty retires after 26 years

*By Betsy Burke Parker*

For 26 years, Nancy Dougherty was the unofficial voice of the National Steeplechase Association, almost always the first person you'd talk to when you rang the NSA's Fair Hill, Maryland office.

Dougherty retired this spring, but she stayed on a full six months to share her quarter-century of knowledge and experience to help transition new business administrator Emery Taylor and assistant to the racing director Harper McVey.

Her former co-workers say Dougherty. 79, leaves a legacy of kindness, always a calm voice and a steady hand in what can be a pressure-filled role.

"Nancy is not average in any way shape or form," Taylor says. "She kept a wealth of knowledge in her head as well as on the shared files. We really benefited from her generosity while we transitioned into our new roles."

"Nan was always the 'rock' within the office," says NSA director of racing Bill Gallo. "She was omnipresent and willing to tackle any task no matter how big or small. She was usually the first voice you heard from the NSA and that voice was welcoming, helpful and willing to assist. If she didn't know the answer she was quick to find out who did."

Retired now but for 25 years working alongside Dougherty in the role of assistant racing secretary and office manager, Peter McGivney agrees that "Nan" was important to the association. "As the NSA's executive secretary, Nancy answered 90 percent of the calls that came in to the office," McGivney recalls. "Whenever I would pick up the phone and say 'National Steeplechase, this is Pete,' the usual response from the person on the other end was 'where's Nan?' "

**Bill Gallo, Mary Guesssford, Nancy Dougherty and Pete McGivney** *©Tod Marks*

### How it started

Born in Wilmington, Delaware in 1942, Dougherty graduated from Wilmington's Goldey-Beacom College's School of Business in 1961.

She worked as senior secretary at DuPont, then as secretary for a bank subsidiary president in North Carolina when she moved there with her first husband. When they divorced, and Dougherty moved to Chester County, Pennsylvania, working for an attorney for several years before returning to DuPont.

She married Jack Dougherty in 1979, a natural partnership, she says. "We shared a great love for horses and hounds. His family had the Lewisville Hunt, generations before him.

"Jack put the pack back together when he was a teenager and hunted the hounds up until a few years ago when his health deteriorated."

They kept 30-40 couple and half a dozen field hunters when the private pack was most active in the old Foxcatcher Hunt territory.

"I like to think we had the best years of hunting," Dougherty says, open fixtures and lots of sport. Today's hunting, she says, is increasingly limited by development. "I applaud those who keep soldiering on.

"Foxhunting has always been in my blood: I started hunting at age 11. The only relative who shared that was my great-uncle Charlie, whom I never knew. My mother would tell me that Uncle Charlie on more than one occasion would jump up from the dinner table to turn his hounds out when (he could hear that) neighboring farmers had a chase going."

From the beginning, there was a direct link from foxhunting to steeplechasing. They attended all the local meets, and Nancy rode some flat races at the point-to-points. She freely admits she "was never brave enough to race over fences - I like to make the excuse that I was wise not to."

It was an natural step, she says, to make steeplechase a vocation as well as avocation.

In 1995, someone – she doesn't remember who, told Dougherty NSA was looking to hire a secretary and that she'd be great at it. "The office was 4 minutes down the road from me, so I sent a resume.

"I went for an interview and started the next day."

Though initially it was to be part-time, "that idea didn't last long," Dougherty adds with a chuckle.

It turned into a 26-year career.

She worked with Charlie Colgan, Bill Gallo, Peter McGivney and one other secretary (Patt Rhinesmith, who worked for Colgan). It was interesting work, she says, usually fun but often frenetic and sometimes highly pressurized.

"I don't think most people realize the amount of work that comes out of the NSA office," Dougherty says. "We worked together like a well-oiled machine for many years with many a late night. But the work had to be done, and we just had to do it.

"I never minded those late hours (because) everything has to be correct and in order for a race meet to run. There's no walking away until the work is finished."

"Nancy is a tireless worker and has a great work ethic," McGivney notes. "It was a rare occurrence when she was not in the office. She's like the Eveready Energizer bunny, she just keeps going and going.

"She'd get things done, even if it meant staying late or coming in on the weekend. She was a valuable asset to the NSA."

"Nan never shied away from work," Gallo adds. "She was never satisfied until the job was done."

Three-meet weeks were where Dougherty's dedication was showcased, though they were long days. "But, we ate lunch at our desks and went right on working," she recalls the energy of the team focused on what had to get done. "It was a great atmosphere as we were in constant communication, and I always thought we all really enjoyed our work.

"Bill always said we were family. They were good times."

"For sure, we had a family relationship within the office," Gallo agrees. "We worked hard, side by side, and supported each other in every way. Occasionally we would celebrate with a glass of wine after work, or have a nice staff dinner in Saratoga if the girls came up for a board meeting. It was always fun, filled with laughter and fond memories."

"Those two- and three-meet weeks were extra high-pressure," Dougherty recalls, "but it just got done. We worked great together."

The spring hunt meet season spilled into summer racing at the major tracks, then back into the fall season. "The only time we had some time to relax a little bit was after the last race meet" in November, Dougherty says. But just as quickly, they'd

**Jack and Nancy Dougherty out foxhunting (on their wedding day!).** *Photo courtesy of Nancy Dougherty*

get into awards-party planning and yearbook production, then it was January and time to get ready for the next spring season.

McGivney points out that steeplechase wasn't Dougherty's only passion – she also pursued dog showing and judging at the national level. "One thing I was always amazed at about Nan was, as busy as she was during the week, she would be on the road on the weekends traveling to dog shows around the country either showing or judging," McGivney says. "I don't know where she gets her energy, but she certainly has plenty of it."

Last year, Dougherty slowed down a notch as she began to prepare for retirement. So when she wrote a helpful guide to her duties for whoever would fill her role, she was a little surprised when it ran to pages and pages, and still wasn't complete.

"When I looked at the job description, it was mind-boggling to think 'how will one person be able to do it?'

"There's a lot to this job," Dougherty says. "You don't realize it when you're in it – you just sort of slog away and do it. But when you write it down, you see there's a lot of detail."

Many NSA records have been digitized – searchable database and lots of online accounting, but some details can't be handled that way, Dougherty stresses. "A lot of it requires a person, interaction, conversation."

NSA business administrator Emery Taylor calls Dougherty "a rock star. She was kind enough to stay on when Harper and I started at NSA in January so we could benefit from her knowledge and expertise.

"Nancy had everything completely organized for us, of course, on a shared file on our server, and she was generous sharing everything she knew, everything she'd learned over the years."

From Monday entry-taking to Wednesday scratches, from licensing to planning, and from drawing races to providing updated race meet information for horsemen, a lot goes into the daily schedule, adds Harper McVey, assistant to the director of racing.

"Thursday and Friday is for final details and getting documents ready to go to the Saturday races. Sundays, we archive videos and post results.

"Really, Nancy was like a den mother in the office, super-organized, very supportive, really nice.

"I know we miss her, and the horsemen miss her."

Dougherty misses it, too. "Honestly, I guess I do, and I don't. It was such a routine for such a long time. I miss the NSA and the staff, the contact with owners, trainers, jockeys, officials and the race meet people.

"The main difference is that now I don't have to get up and do my own (farm work) early, 'before work.' These days, I can just start an hour later if that's what I feel like."

McGivney says he's glad for Dougherty's retirement, but for another reason. "Nancy and I retired at about the same time," he explains. "For me, it wouldn't be the same if I had to go into the office and Nancy wasn't there sitting at her desk."

**Dougherty showing her hound Kastille.** *©Karen L. Kennedy*

Ironically, in retirement Dougherty is as busy as ever, refueling her passion for dog showing and judging. She keeps seven couple of the original Lewisville hounds–Penn Marydels, in the kennels.

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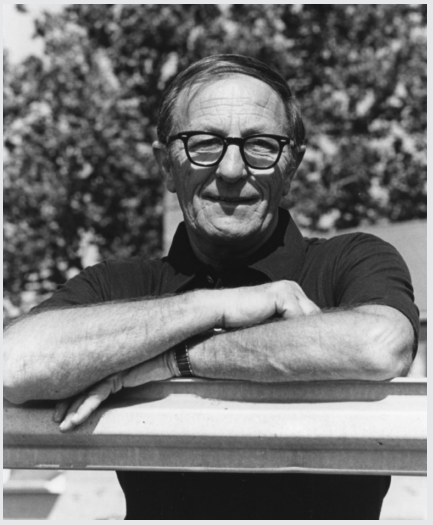
# Billy Christmas



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William G. "Billy" Christmas, one of the most widely known figures in Maryland breeding and racing for nearly all his 96 years, died Nov. 14, a few days shy of his birthday at his Idle Miss Farm in Monkton.

Christmas was a member of a racing family whose roots ran deep in the state. *Maryland Horse* editor Snowden Carter once described the affable Christmas' background: "He was born to horse racing. His father is owner-trainer B. Frank Christmas. His uncles, all trainers, are J. Yancey Christmas, Edward A. Christmas and Donelson Christmas. His aunt, Rhoda Christmas, is a lifelong horsewoman who also held a trainer's license.

"Billy met his wife, Louise White, at the race track. . ."

Born in Washington, D.C., and raised in southern Maryland, Christmas attended St. Joseph School in Washington and served in the Army during World War II. Upon his return from the war, he began his own training career, which continued for more than seven decades. He saddled his first winner in March 1949 at Bowie. His last winner came in 2012 with No Attraction, a gelding bred by his wife.

The best horse he developed was Terrible Tiger, owned by Louise, who won stakes in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Christmas had picked the son of *Amerigo out as a yearling for a client, who in turn sold him to Christmas as a 2-year-old. Terrible Tiger took the Christmases across the country as he won stakes from Aqueduct to Santa Anita, eventually retiring with earnings of $263,313 after winning 23 of 72 races.

Christmas was a mentor and advocate to many on the backstretch, and it was with Terrible Tiger that he helped make history with Olympic show-jumping medalist Kathy Kusner, who rode the colt to victory at Marlboro in 1971. Kusner, the first licensed female jockey in the United States, recalled the opportunity while visiting the area in 2019. Christmas was one of few trainers to give Kusner work on the track.

"She rode all of my horses, and they weren't very good," said Christmas in an article in the *Maryland Horse* newsletter in November 2019.

"They weren't," agreed Kusner. "But he rode me on all his horses and I didn't even know him. But it was great for me. They gave me lots of practice. And he had one that was great. I got to ride Terrible Tiger."

Christmas became a director of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association while in his 30s, and was president from 1971-73. In early 1979 he formed the Maryland Sales Agency after years of being critical of the existing sales format in the state. The auction company broke records at the start, but lasted just over a decade.

In 1983, a year after Delaware Park had closed, Christmas joined forces with William Rickman Sr. in the purchase of the track. Racing resumed the next spring, and Rickman bought out Christmas the following year.

Christmas remained active as a breeder and trainer and was hands-on well into his 90s. His wife Louise died at age 84 in 2019 after 66 years of marriage.

Christmas is survived by sons R. Whitney Christmas of Monkton, Dr. James T. "JT" Christmas of Richmond, Va., and B. Frank "Biff" Christmas II of Palm Desert, Calif.; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. His son William G. Christmas Jr., born on Christmas Day 1954, died in 1980.

## RICHARD POULSON

Thoroughbred owner, breeder and leader Richard J.M. Poulson of Orange, Va., and Washington, D.C., died Nov. 4. He was 83.

Poulson was a longtime partner in the law firm Hogan and Hartson (now Hogan and Lovell) and led the firm's international expansion in 1989. Prior to joining Hogan, he was a vice president at American Security and Trust Company, a predecessor to Bank of America. Following his retirement from Hogan, he joined Smithfield Foods as an executive vice president and general counsel. He later joined Oaktree Capital Management as the senior advisor on mergers and acquisitions.

Poulson and his wife Anne owned Hare Forest Farm, and helped develop 1994 Kentucky Derby-G1 winner Go For Gin. Other standouts included homebred Grade 2 winner Unchained Melody, homebred Grade 3 winner Love Match, named Maryland-bred champion turf runner of 2005, homebred stakes winner St. Albans Boy, and Grade 1-placed Summer Patriot. One of his first runners, Something, was Maryland-bred champion 2-year-old filly of 1984. Poulson served on the National Steeplechase Association's board of directors and oversaw the Montpelier Hunt Races steeplechase meet for several years.

He played rugby for the Washington Rugby Football Club and was elected to the U.S. Rugby Football Hall of Fame in 2015. He coached football and track at Randolph-Macon Academy and Christchurch School and later mentored and coached youth baseball players in D.C. He also cofounded and chaired the Foggy Bottom Youth Baseball Foundation, which provides quality coaching, equipment and facilities to those who could not otherwise afford to play.

He created and chaired The Mary and Daniel Loughran Foundation, a charitable foundation that has contributed more than $250 million dollars to the Washington community.

Poulson graduated from the University of Virginia, American University, Washington College of Law, and Georgetown University Law School. He served two terms on the UVA board of managers and was chairman/president in 1995-96.

Survivors include his wife, Anne Wrenn Poulson; his son, Hundley Poulson; his daughter, Anna Blair Poulson; and his brother, Jon Poulson.

## JOHN VON STADE

John von Stade, longtime co-chair of the Far Hills Races steeplechase meet in addition to a 17-year post as the president of the National Museum of Racing and

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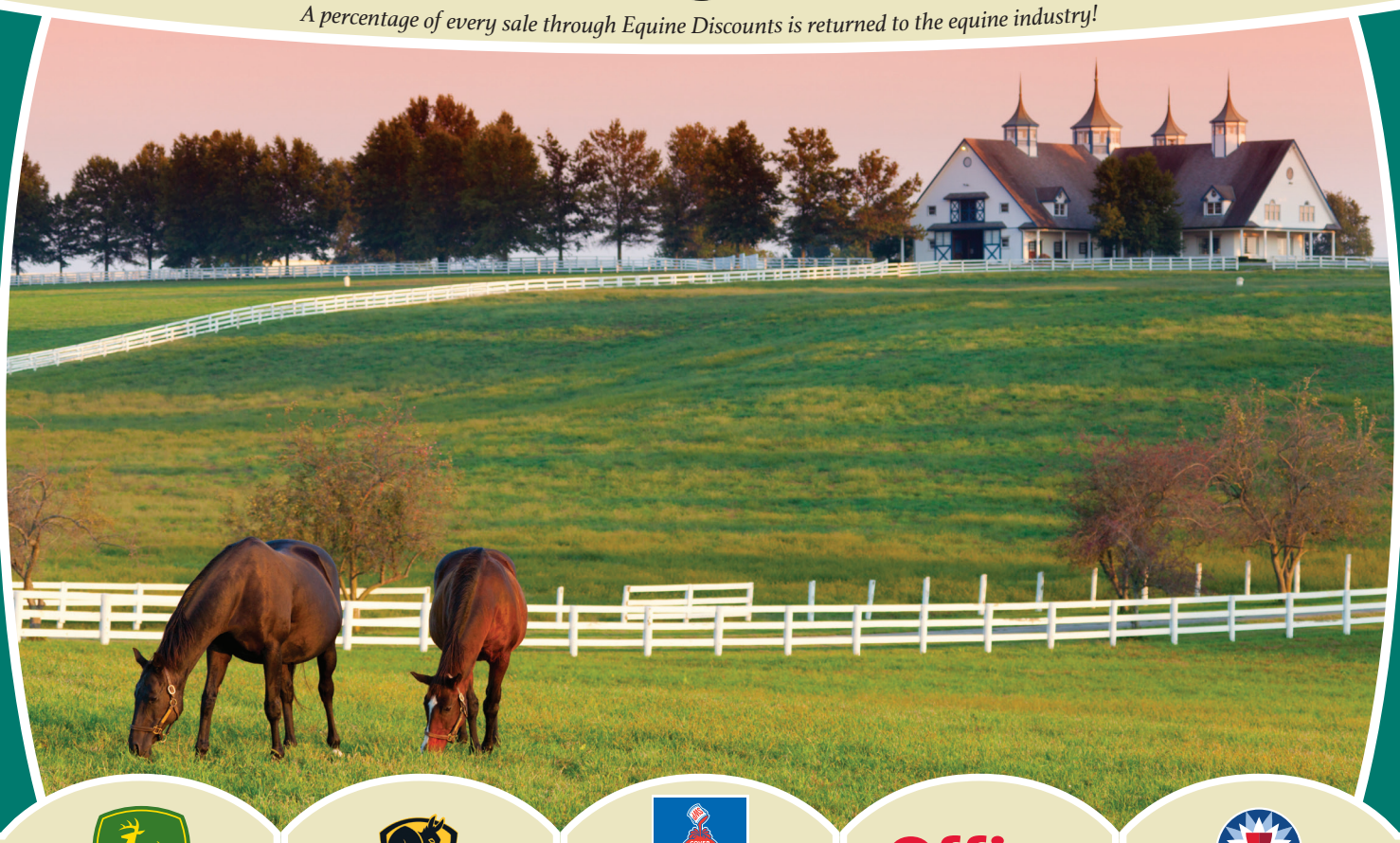

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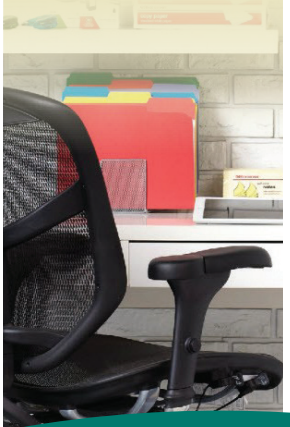

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## Sam Huff

Robert Lee "Sam" Huff, the professional football Hall of Famer who returned to his home state of West Virginia and created the West Virginia Breeders Classics, the richest day of Thoroughbred racing in state history when it debuted in 1987, died Nov. 13 in Winchester, Va. He was 87.

Tributes poured in around the country following his death, all describing his NFL career, which began with the New York Giants where he became one of the sport's first superstars, and continued with the Washington Redskins. His fame as a linebacker was so great he appeared on the cover of *Time* magazine in 1959. He was wired for sound during a game in 1960 which aired as a CBS special report. Ranked as one of the Top 100 NFL players of all-time, he retired from playing football after 13 years and then spent more than 30 years as a broadcaster for Washington football with former teammate Sonny Jurgensen.

Huff was born in the West Virginia coal mining town of Edna Gas, where his father and two brothers worked in the mines. He noted in his 1988 autobiography that he became known as Sam at an early age, although "to this day I have no idea how I got my real name, or the nickname."

Huff was a longtime Thoroughbred breeder, owner and racing fan. Connecting with Carol Holden in May 1985, then working with the West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund at Charles Town, Huff turned his vision of property in Middleburg, Va., into a small Thoroughbred farm. Holden remained his partner of more than 30 years. They also had a professional partnership, producing syndicated radio broadcasts on racing from 1989 to 2016.

Huff's horses over the years were led by Bursting Forth, a multiple graded stakes winner in the late 1990s, and homebred stakes winner Jet Set Citi. Huff bought the Cormorant filly Saratoga Dew as a yearling for $10,000 at the 1990 Equivest Breeders' Sales Company winter mixed sale at Timonium, Md., under his Sporting Life Stable banner as a pinhook prospect and, when there were no takers, sold her privately to friend Charles Engel. Saratoga Dew won six stakes at 3, two Grade 1s, and earned an Eclipse Award.

After attending the first Maryland Million in 1986, Huff discussed with Holden the idea of creating something similar in West Virginia. In a history of the West Virginia Breeders Classics in *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* written by Vinnie Perrone for the 30th anniversary in 2016, WVBC leading trainer James W. Casey said: "Sam Huff had a lot of pull. He was well-liked, well-known in the state. Nobody else could have done it, but he pulled it off."

The first West Virginia Breeders Classics featured the $100,000 Classic (won by Onion Juice)—the first six-figure race in the track's history—and

four $25,000 races at a track struggling to stay afloat. Before the event, Huff noted, "The West Virginia Thoroughbred breeding industry has grown tremendously in the last few years as a result of the West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund and we believe the Breeders Classics will contribute greatly to its future growth."

Hall of Fame trainer Steve Asmussen, then 21, won a stakes on the inaugural card and years later said: "I remember Sam Huff presenting the trophy. That was a thrill."

For his role as founder and president of the West Virginia Breeders Classics, Huff received a Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association award in 1994. In 1999, he was presented TOBA's inaugural Owner of the Year award for the Mid-Atlantic region.

Huff and Holden were inducted into the Charles Town Racing Hall of Fame for distinguished achievement in 2011.

Hall of Fame died at home in Maryland Nov. 25. He was 83.

Born in Old Westbury, N.Y., in 1938, von Stade was the youngest of F. Skiddy and Katherine von Stade's eight children. He graduated from St. Paul's School in Concord, N.H., and Harvard University, developing his passion for music and art. After college, von Stade attended the Aspen School of Music and served in the Army Reserves. He then spent time in the banking world before opening the Essex Gallery of Sport in Far Hills, N.J.

Von Stade's father was a founder of the National Museum of Racing in 1950, president of the National Steeplechase Association, and the final president of the Saratoga Association, which owned and operated Saratoga Race Course before its assimilation into what is now the New York Racing Association. In his youth, John von Stade drove a tractor at Saratoga, harrowing the track between races.

Partaking for a brief time in Thoroughbred ownership, von Stade partnered in the small Ivy Creek Stable with his friend Charlie Mellon. A couple of the stable's horses were steeplechasers, which led to von Stade's relationship with New Jersey's Far Hills Race Meeting and the National Steeplechase Association. For 50 years, he served as co-chair at Far Hills, helping develop an event that early in its history attracted a few thousand spectators into the country's richest day of steeplechasing, with more than 50,000 attending and millions of dollars raised for charity.

Guy Torsilieri called his former co-chair the "fabric and the glue" that held things together between the races and the foundation that donates to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Somerville, N.J. It is the home of the Steeplechase Cancer Center and the von Stade Lobby, built on $18 million raised from the Far Hills racing proceeds.

After serving for more than a decade as a trustee of the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, von Stade was elected as its president in 1989, succeeding Whitney Tower. Von Stade oversaw an $18 million project that modernized the institution and increased the size of the facility to more than 45,000 square feet.

In 1995, von Stade received the F. Ambrose Clark Award—the highest honor in steeplechasing—given periodically to an individual who has done the most to promote, improve and encourage the growth and welfare of American steeplechasing. Von Stade resided in New Jersey and Saratoga Springs until moving to Maryland six years ago.

He is survived by his wife, the former Phyllis Kaltenbach DuVal; his son, John von Stade, Jr. and daughter-in-law, Ann von Stade; Phyllis' daughters and son-in-law, Anna DuVal, Olivia Duval, and Joseph Cutrone; six grandchildren and numerous nephews and nieces.

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# Looking Back

## 10 years ago

■ The Edward P. Evans dispersal proved to be a tribute to the late Virginia breeder, as 220 horses from his Spring Hill Farm sold at Keeneland as yearlings in September and at the mixed sale in November for $62,347,000, far surpassing the record of nearly $47 million from the dispersal of another great Virginia operation, Newstead Farm.

Twelve of Evans' November sales horses sold for at least $1 million, and 20 brought $600,000 or more. Quiet Dance was the dam of four of the seven-figure horses—4-year-old graded stakes-winning daughter Quiet Giant sold for $3 million; weanling Medaglia d'Oro filly brought a North American record $2.6 million; 3-year-old A.P. Indy filly Dance Quietly, $2 million; and 6-year-old Tiznow mare Quiet Now, $1.85 million. The 18-year-old Quiet Dance sold not in foal for $800,000. The dispersal's top price was $4.2 million for Grade 1 winner Christmas Kid.

Said Geoffrey Russell, Keeneland's director of sales: "He developed at least four prominent families that sold gangbusters . . . What Ned Evans was very good at was he developed live branches. These weren't old tired families at all."

*The Quiet Dance family continues to prosper as Quiet Giant produced as her first foal Gun Runner; Quiet Now is the dam of millionaire Lull; and the weanling filly, named Miss Besilu, was graded stakes-placed and produced as her first foal Gun It, a son of Tapit who sold as a yearling for $2.6 million and is multiple graded stakes-placed. Quiet Dance delivered her final foal in 2015; her 2014 colt Funtastic won the United Nations-G1 in 2018.*

KEENELAND PHOTO

**Quiet Giant, among the top prices of the Evans dispersal at $3 million, went on to produce Gun Runner as her first foal.**

■ Another star Virginia-bred was 3-year-old Her Smile, a Grade 1 winner bred by William Backer. Sold privately by her breeder to Bobby Flay earlier in the year, the Include filly was sent to the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky November sale as a broodmare or racing prospect and brought $1 million.

*Her Smile started the next year but didn't return to her 3-year-old form. Back in the Fasig-Tipton sale in 2013 she sold for $1,075,000. The next year at Keeneland November she brought $1.5 million while carrying graded stakes-winning Tapit filly Pink Sands, recently sold for $2.3 million.*

■ Pennsylvania-based trainer Robert "Butch" Reid Jr. sent out his first Breeders' Cup winner when Kasey K Racing Stable's longshot Afleet Again rallied to take the Marathon-G2 at Churchill Downs. Reid had trained the 4-year-old gray colt his entire career. "I think I was the only one on his side from the beginning," he said. "He's a frustrating horse to train and a frustrating horse to own because he's a big, powerful individual and he has the talent to do even more than he's already done but his personality is so laid back. . ." A graded stakes winner at 3, Afleet Again lost 13 in a row until the Marathon score.

■ Tom Voss sent out his wife Mimi's homebred Wanganui to win the Raymond G. Woolfe Memorial Hurdle Stakes at Camden on the final day of the steeplechase calendar and in the process secured his fifth trainer title, one win better than Jonathan Sheppard in the 2011 standings.

■ Pennsylvania got its first Grade 1 race when Parx's Cotillion Stakes for 3-year-old fillies was upgraded by the American Graded Stakes Committee. The race's three most recent winners were Plum Pretty, Havre de Grace and Careless Jewel.

## 75 years ago

■ William H. LaBoyteaux, the breeder of many winners at his Hop Creek Farm in Holmdel, N.J., died suddenly at his home in New York. Among his homebred stakes winners were Imperatrice and Sopranist, both by his stallion Caruso. A stockholder in the Fasig-Tipton Company, LaBoyteaux regularly consigned his yearlings to the Saratoga sales.

■ Alfred G. Vanderbilt's eagerly awaited annual list of 2-year-old names was released. Among the gems were Finagle (out of The Schemer), Wire Brush (Rust), Dime (Spare Change), Aviation (Canfli), Brass Band (Parade Girl), Drag (Pansy), Stamp Album (Penny Postal), Final Touch (That's That) and Minx (Savage Beauty).

*The best runner of the group was top handicap horse Loser Weeper (Discovery—Outdone), who counted among his victories the Vosburgh, Metropolitan and Suburban Handicaps.*

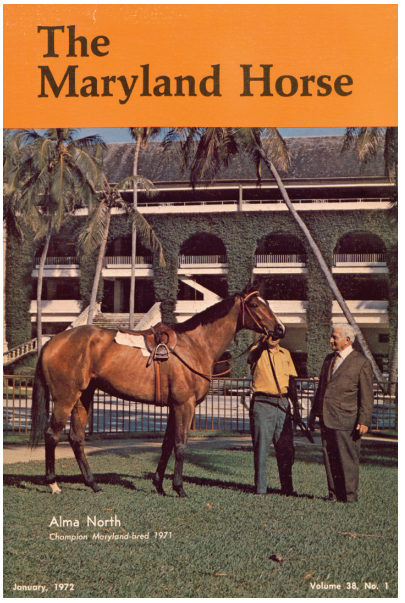
■ The possibility that the Maryland Jockey Club might move its historic Pimlico race course to another site was revealed by president Harry A. Parr III.

In a formal discussion of proposed improvements at the Maryland tracks, Parr declared that MJC had two plans under consideration: "Either we will rebuild an entirely new plant on the present Pimlico site or will move to an entirely new location."

The lease on the Pimlico property was to expire in 1949, and according to Parr an effort would be made to acquire the property outright.

■ Maryland-bred winners in November 1946 included a handful of double winners, among them juvenile Pilaster, a gelded son of Virginia sire Pilate bred by H.L. Straus.

*The next year Pilaster won three times before his career took off. From 1948 through 1952, he captured 14 stakes, placed in 15 others and retired with 29 wins from 102 starts for earnings of $259,800.*




# 50 years ago

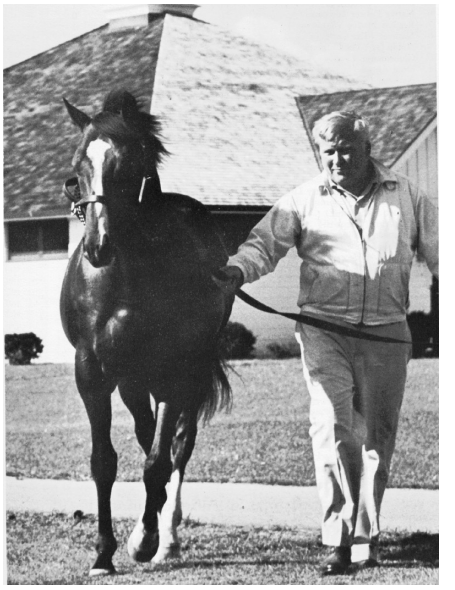
■ The Maryland Horse Breeders Association toasted champions selected by a committee of Maryland racing writers for its 10th annual year-end awards. Northern Dancer's daughter Alma North was named Horse of the Year as well as champion 3-year-old filly. The filly made 27 starts that year (17 in stakes) and won or placed 19 times. Among her dozen stakes wins and placings was a victory in Liberty Bell's Cotillion. Her durability won her America's "Iron Horse of the Year" citation– a selection made by four of the nation's top racing secretaries.

Alma North was bred by J.I.B. Farms, a partnership between Dr. Robert A. Leonard and Stanley Bender, the latter son of original partner, the late Jack I. Bender. Eugene Mori bought the filly for $15,500 as a yearling in Saratoga and raced her under the name of East Acres.

*From 3 to 5 Alma North made 67 starts and finished in the top three 45 times. A Grade 1 winner, she captured 15 stakes in her career, was second or third in 20 others, and earned $513,597. Her 78th and final race was a win in Liberty Bell's Tuscarora Handicap in January 1974.*

■ For the first time in 32 years, since *Challenger II in 1939, Maryland was the home to the nation's leading stallion. Windfields Farm's Northern Dancer took his place at the top of the list with $1.28 million in progeny earnings. The sire of 10 stakes winners in North America and one in France (Pennsylvania-bred Lyphard), he was by far the top sire in Maryland; his sire Nearctic ranked second in the state by earnings (just shy of $750,000) and stakes winners (nine).

■ Bolstered by 30 new stallions, Maryland's 1972 stallion roster was the largest in the state's history with 225 Thoroughbreds scheduled for stud duty. Heading the list was Northern Dancer. Among new arrivals was Native Dancer's son Protanto, standing at Windfields; and T. V. Commercial, added to the roster at Woodstock Farm to stand alongside Nearctic.



**Windfield's Northern Dancer topped the national leading sires list.**

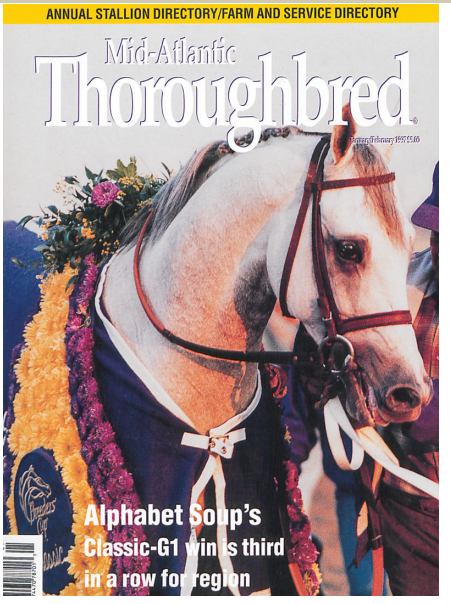
■ Tommy Trotter's year-end Experimental Handicap, ranking that year's 2-year-olds, was led by Kentucky-bred Meadow Stable runner Riva Ridge at 126 pounds. The highest to represent the Mid-Atlantic region was Paul Mellon's Virginia-bred Key to the Mint, tied as the third highweight at 121. The top Maryland-bred was state-bred champion Bee Bee Bee, at 112.

# 25 years ago

■ The mighty Cigar, seeking to defend his title in the Breeders' Cup Classic-G1, fell a nose and a head short when third behind Pennsylvania-bred Alphabet Soup in the $4-million feature at Woodbine.

Nearly white 5-year-old Alphabet Soup, bred by Virginian Roy Lerman, who sent his mare Illiterate (by Arts and Letters) to Pennsylvania in 1991 to take advantage of that state-bred program, was the third Classic winner in a row for the Mid-Atlantic region (Maryland-bred Concern won in 1994). Offered by his breeder twice at auction, Alphabet Soup was a $29,000 RNA at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's May sale. Sold privately after that sale to Georgia B. Ridder, he was sent to California, where he raced exclusively until the Breeders' Cup. The six-time graded stakes winner pushed his earnings to $2,930,270 from 23 starts.

■ Fair Hill-based Michael Dickinson, a three-time champion steeplechase trainer in England, sent out his first Breeders' Cup winner when Da Hoss captured the Mile-G1.




Dickinson, in the U.S. for a decade, got his first North American winner with his first starter in June 1987, and became known for "doing things his own way."

Described as "intelligent, driven, highly focused, starkly self-critical, and an absolute stickler for detail," Dickinson walked the Woodbine turf course three consecutive days, for a total of nine trips, and told Da Hoss' new rider Gary Stevens to ride the rail in the Mile. "I said to Gary, 'These are dreadful instructions I'm going to give you. If they don't work, I'll take responsibility.' They were dangerous tactics [from the sixth of 14 posts]. With a slow pace, I could have looked stupid," said Dickinson.

He and his partner Joan Wakefield had recently purchased property on the banks of Maryland's Elk River to develop a training center.

■ Voters in Jefferson County, W.Va., overwhelmingly approved video lottery terminals at Charles Town Races. The referendum, far beyond the U.S. presidential election and West Virginia's gubernatorial race, was the most prominent issue for the local electorate. With the results locked in, Penn National Gaming immediately moved on the option to purchase the track. "A year or two from now, people are going to drive past Charles Town and say, 'Hey, look at that! Isn't that great? Isn't that beautiful?' said Peter Carlino, president and board chairman of Penn National Gaming.

**To The Meet:** The Green Spring Valley Hounds, led by huntsman Otis Hayes (left) and whipper-in Ernest Boblitz head to a meet in 1936 with eight couple or so.

Photojournalist A. Aubrey Bodine, who worked at the Baltimore *Sun* for 50 years–from 1920 until his death in 1970–captured many scenes of Maryland horses, farms and racing. He was regarded worldwide as one of the finest pictorialists of the 20th century. *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* features his work in Past Time.

Image #45-511 www.aaubreybodine.com
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